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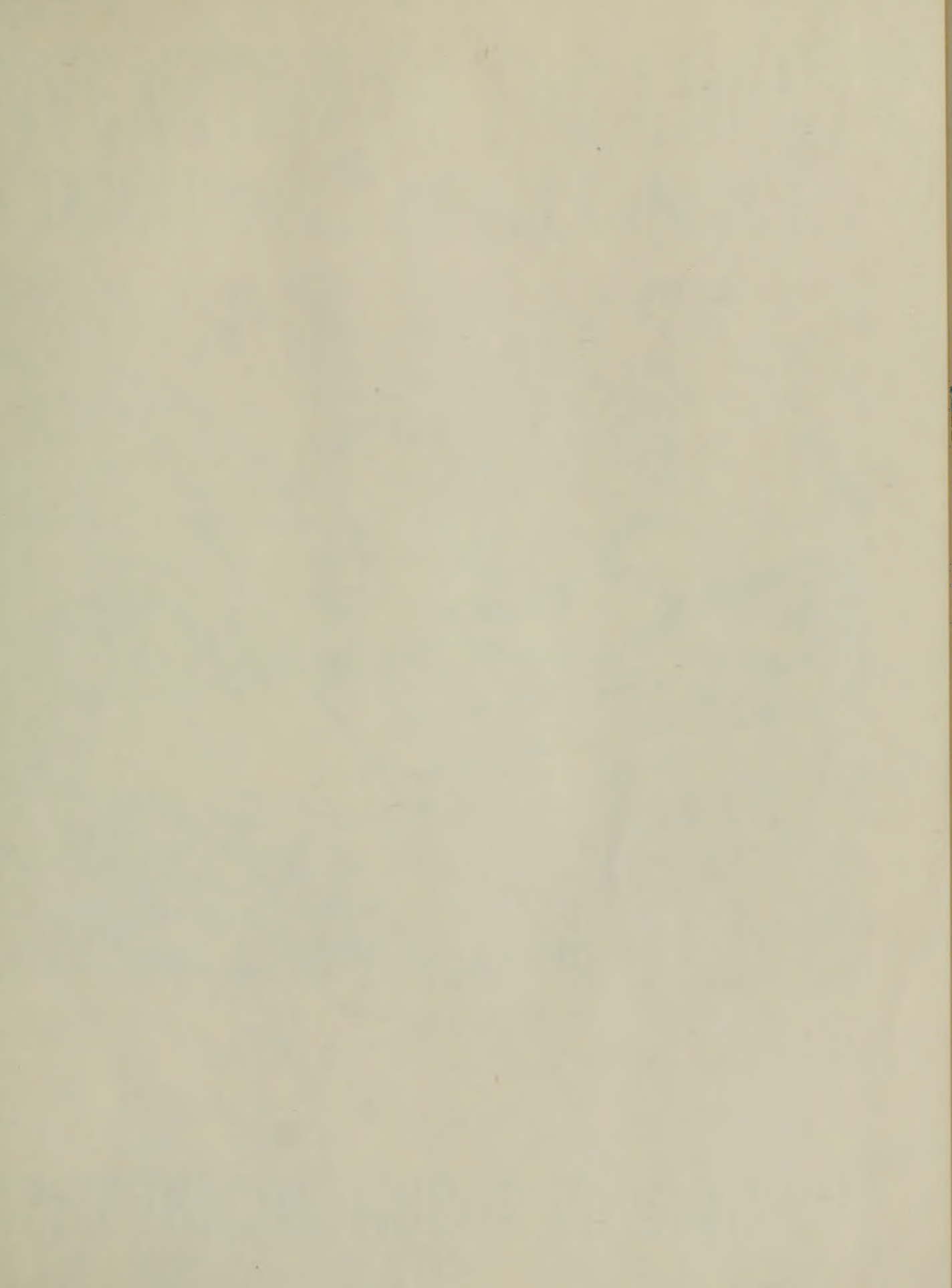
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ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY



INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ★ ARCHIVES OF ILLINOIS ★



ROCK ISLAND COUNTY
(ROCK ISLAND)
no-81

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HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

CHICAGO • ILLINOIS

INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES
OF ILLINOIS

Prepared by

The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project
Division of Professional and Service Projects
Work Projects Administration

No. 81. ROCK ISLAND COUNTY (ROCK ISLAND)

* * * * *

Chicago, Illinois
The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project
December 1939

The Historical Records Survey Program

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FOREWORD

The Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois is one of a number of bibliographies of historical material prepared throughout the United States by workers on The Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of Rock Island County, is number 81 of the Illinois series.

The Historical Records Survey Program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, business men, and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by The Historical Records Survey Program attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of The Historical Records Survey Program, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey Program was organized and has been directed by Luther H. Evans, and operates as a nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Professional and Service Projects, of which Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

F. C. Harrington
Commissioner

The inventories being compiled by The Historical Records Survey Program also make possible for the first time a scientific study of the question of record destruction. Under Illinois law no records may be destroyed without specific enabling legislation. This provision, together with the tremendous increase in the quantity of records in recent years, has made it impossible for either the state or the counties to take care of the documents adequately. Hence, a certain amount of record destruction has been inevitable. If, as seems probable, a study of these inventories should lead to the enactment of adequate and sensible legislation governing the disposition of public records, these compilations may prove to be the most important contribution of the Survey.

Preliminary work on the survey of records in Rock Island County, the eighty-first county on the alphabetically arranged list of the one hundred and two counties in Illinois, was begun in June, 1936, and finished as far as possible November 15, 1937. Rechecking was begun November 19, 1937, and completed March 16, 1938. A final recheck was begun January 3, 1939, and completed October 9. Abstracting and transcribing of county board records was started in July, 1938, and completed February 27, 1939. The inventory was taken by Lucille Crouch, Catherine Johnson, Edward Granquist, William O. Peak, Cora Littig, Mary Ballou, and Laura Erickson under the supervision of V. C. Karcher; rechecking, abstracting, and transcribing was accomplished under the direction of Kenneth C. Blood.

The Inventory was prepared for publication by the state editorial staff of The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project at Chicago, under the supervision of Herbert R. Rifkind. Preparation of Part B of the Inventory was under the direction of Martine O'Connor; Irving E. Barnett supervised the preparation of the legal essays; the historical sketch was written under the supervision of Kathleen Summitt; and the format was prepared and collated by Edward J. McDonough. In addition, too much credit cannot be given to the other members of the editorial, research, and typing staffs for their intelligent and diligent cooperation in the compilation of this Inventory.

All of the officers of Rock Island County cooperated in every possible way with the workers, and grateful acknowledgment of their aid is hereby made. I also wish to express appreciation for the assistance rendered by the officials of the Illinois Work Projects Administration and the Illinois Writers' Project. For the cover design we are indebted to the Illinois Art Project.

The various units of the Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois will be available for distribution to governmental offices, libraries, schools, and historical societies in Illinois, and libraries and governmental agencies in other states. Requests for information concerning particular units of the Inventory should be addressed to the State Supervisor.

Royal S. Van de Woestyne
Royal S. Van de Woestyne
State Supervisor
The Illinois Historical Records
Survey Project

December 15, 1939

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1. HISTORICAL SKETCH

Introduction

Location and Physical Characteristics

Rock Island County, comprising a narrow, roughly triangular strip of about 428 square miles,¹ stretches some 60 miles along the east bank of the Mississippi River in the northwestern part of Illinois. Rock River, a large navigable stream, after separating Rock Island from Henry County, divides the former into north and south sections and empties into the Mississippi 3 miles below the city of Rock Island. Owing to the crookedness of the two rivers, which in part form its boundaries, the county has a highly irregular shape.

The topography of Rock Island County varies from flat prairie land in the southern part to undulating and rolling prairie in the north. The low alluvial bottom lands give way to bluffs and hills which follow along the shore of the Mississippi River almost through the whole length of the county. The average altitude is 650 feet above sea level.²

Limestone, sandstone, fine potter's clay, and rich coal veins are found throughout the county. Rock Island abounds with Indian mounds in some of which have been found stone and copper implements, shells, pearls, and mica, indicating that the builders of the mounds either migrated from remote and different parts of the continent, or traded with widely scattered tribes.

The soil is of a rich, black alluvium well suited for diversified agriculture.³ Besides raising good crops of corn, soybeans, and small

1. R. S. Smith and Others, Rock Island Soils, Soil Report No. 31 (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1925), p. 1. Hereafter cited as Rock Island Soils.

2. Ibid., p. 5.

3. "Rock Island County was covered by the Illinoisian glaciation, which partially levelled the region by rubbing down the hills and filling the valleys. No moraines were formed in this county. A later ice sheet, known as the Iowa glaciation, probably did not cover any portion of Rock Island County. It played an important role, however, in the formation of the soils of the county because the water from the melting ice carried large quantities of sediment and deposited it on the extensive bottom lands and terraces. Later much of this material in the form of fine sand and silt was blown on to the upland. This wind-blown deposit varies from 5 to 40 feet in thickness and is known as loess." Ibid., p. 3.

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grains, the soil is well adapted to fruit growing and gardening; cattle raising and dairying are also important sources of income for the farmer of Rock Island County. Practically all of the county is drained by the Mississippi and Rock rivers; in the southern portion are two secondary streams, Copperas and Mill creeks. In order to keep down the excess water, levees have been built along the Mississippi, and pumping stations established.

Rock Island is bounded by the Mississippi River on the west, White-side County on the north and east, Henry County on the south and east, and by Mercer County on the south.

The county seat is the important industrial city of Rock Island, lying on the banks of the Mississippi, 185 miles southwest of Chicago. Adjoining Rock Island to the east is Moline, another important manufacturing center. About 4 miles east of Moline and 7 miles east of the city of Rock Island lies East Moline, the youngest of the three cities. Across the Mississippi and opposite the city of Rock Island is the large industrial city of Davenport, Iowa, intimately connected with her neighbors, historically and commercially. Not counting the human factor, these cities owe their growth and development to the Mississippi which at one time in their history was the chief traffic bearer between north and south, and from east to west, and which has since become of incalculable value as an inexhaustible source of water power, and to their geographic position in the heart of one of the richest river valleys in the world. This cluster of cities is popularly referred to as the Tri-Cities, and since the development of their youngest neighbor, East Moline, as the Quad-Cities. The central geographical point of the three cities is in longitude 13 degrees and 37 minutes west of Washington, and in latitude 41 degrees and 30 minutes north.¹

North of Rock River, overlooking the city of Rock Island, stands a high cliff known as the old Black Hawk Watch Tower which affords a wide view of the surrounding country.

In the middle of the Mississippi River, between Davenport, Iowa, and the cities of Rock Island and Moline, lies a rocky island about two and a half miles long by three quarters of a mile wide, the base of which is a vast mass of the Hamilton limestone frequently found in this section of the country. This is the historic Rock Island on which at one time stood Fort Armstrong, one of the farthest outposts of white civilization in the West, serving the important purpose of symbolizing to the red men

1. B. F. Tillinghast, Three Cities: Moline, Rock Island, and Davenport (Davenport: Egbert, Fidler, Chambers, 1888), p. 36.

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the authority of the United States government. At present it is the site of the Federal arsenal bearing the name of the island. Four distinct, yet closely interrelated physical and political units owe their names to the rugged contours of that island: the island itself, the Rock Island Arsenal, the city of Rock Island, and Rock Island County.

Indian Occupants and White Settlers

The region which became Rock Island County, from the time when it was an unorganized tract in northwestern Illinois and for a period after its establishment as a county in 1831, has been the scene of an exciting act in the American drama - the conflict between the savage occupants of vast uncultivated lands and the civilized intruders who were eager to use that land to their own advantage. Here, the irresistible force of the American colonists met the easily movable body of Indian inhabitants; the result was a conflict, both pathetic and brutal, which has been dignified by the name of "war." For future generations that "war" served to crystallize among other things, the conduct of the white settlers toward the Indians, the irreconcilability of the interests and traditions of the two races, and the Indian policy of the national government of that time.

The Sac and Fox Indian tribes, from the middle of the eighteenth century, occupied the banks of the Mississippi between the mouths of the Wisconsin and Missouri rivers.¹ Within the limits of that section, on the north bank of Rock River three miles above its mouth, was built the ancient Sac village called Saukenuk, Sac, or later, Black Hawk's Village,² one of the oldest and largest Indian settlements on the continent. It was populated by about five hundred families and contained the principal cemetery of the tribe.³ The soil was fertile, and the Indians raised good crops of corn, pumpkins, beans, and squashes on a cultivated tract of some three thousand acres⁴ lying north of the village and parallel with the Mississippi River. As was the custom of the Indians, their women cultivated the crops and attended to the domestic duties while the

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1. Wisconsin Historical Collections, ed. Reuben Gold Thwaites (Madison: Democratic Printing Company, 1892), XII, 219.
 2. Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Rock Island County, ed. Newton Bateman, Paul Selby and (Rock Island) William A. Moese (Chicago: Munsell Publishing Company, 1914), I, 613. Hereafter referred to as History of Rock Island County.
 3. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 219.
 4. Ibid. In his autobiography Black Hawk said that the cultivated tract was eight hundred acres. Autobiography of Black Hawk and A General History of the Black Hawk War of 1832, Dictated by Himself to Antoine LeClaire, U.S. Interpreter, ed. J. B. Paterson (St. Louis: Continental Printing Co., 1882), p. 57. Hereafter referred to as Autobiography of Black Hawk.

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men hunted, played games, and occasionally set out on raiding parties against their tribal enemies.

Makataimeshehiakiak, or Black Hawk, born in the Sac Village in 1767, was by virtue of his bravery and leadership the chief of the Sacs and the leader of the village. He was known both to the white men and his own tribesman as a man of high moral character and uncommon loyalty to his people. However, it was force of circumstance rather than his superior ability which caused him to become the chief character of a drama, a national celebrity of his day, and an outstanding figure in the history of the West. The chief of the Fox tribe, closely allied to the Sacs, was Keokuk, an orator of ability, a shrewd man who knew the value of compromise and diplomatic ways. His position in the tribes was that of civil chief while Black Hawk was the recognized and respected war chief, and while there was no open friction between the two, there was a suggestion of suspicion and rivalry. Black Hawk was under the influence of British agents who cultivated in him, as well as in other Indian leaders of that time, Keokuk excepted, a spirit of hostility toward the Americans. In the War of 1812, Black Hawk sided with the British, and his followers were known as the British Band. In 1814, he and his band attacked three barges commanded by Lieutenant Campbell and manned by American regulars and rangers on their way to reinforce Fort Shelby. The battle was fought at an island about six miles east of the present city of Moline, now known as Campbell's Island. Later in the same year, in another engagement recorded as Major Taylor's battle, Black Hawk and the British defeated an American force.¹ These hostile acts were remembered by the whites when in later years the chief failed to make the compromises expected of him.

The entanglement of the Rock Island region in the Indian situation began with the treaty of 1804, negotiated between William Henry Harrison, then governor of Indiana Territory, and the Sacs and Foxes. The two tribes ceded to the United States government, in return for an annuity of \$1,000, fifty million acres of land comprising, in approximate terms, the eastern third of the present state of Missouri and the territory situated between the Wisconsin River on the north, the Fox River of Illinois on the east, the Illinois on the southeast, and the Mississippi on the west; all that tract which later became Rock Island County was included in this territory.² One of the clauses of that treaty - article seven - became one of the chief causes of the conflict. The article stipulated that "as long as the lands which are now ceded to the United States remain their (government) property, the Indians belonging to the said tribes shall enjoy the privilege of living and hunting upon them."³ In his

1. History of Rock Island County, I, 619.

2. Ibid., p. 618.

3. Treaties Between the United States of America and the Several Indian Tribes (Washington, 1837), p. 109, as quoted in Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 218.

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autobiography, first published shortly after the conclusion of the war and during the lifetime of some of the signers of that treaty, Black Hawk claimed that he did not know that the treaty included his village, that he himself did not sign the treaty, but that four of his men, sent to St. Louis to secure the release of a tribesman imprisoned for murder, had affixed their signatures while under the influence of strong drink.¹ His position in this argument was not very strong, as in every treaty he signed after that he reaffirmed the integrity of the treaty of 1804. Black Hawk signed the treaties of St. Louis in 1816 and 1822, and at Prairie du Chien in 1825.² Of the treaty of 1816, he said, "Here for the first time, I touched the goose quille to the treaty, not knowing, however, that by the act I consented to give away my village. Had that been explained to me I should have opposed it and never would have signed their treaty, as my recent conduct will clearly prove."³

Black Hawk's earliest contact with the Americans as neighbors came in 1816 when a force of United States regulars under Colonel William Lawrence built Fort Armstrong on the lower point of Rock Island, in advance of the tide of settlers sweeping westward. With the troops came George Davenport as contractor for the commissary department, and later in the year, Mrs. Davenport and a Mrs. Lewis reached the island. In 1817, Davenport built a log cabin and storehouse on the island and began his career as an Indian trader; later he was joined by Russel Farnham who became his partner in the fur trade.⁴ In 1826, Farnham built a house on the mainland known in the records of the county as the house of John Barrel.⁵ This house later became the first courthouse of Rock Island County and formed the nucleus for the settlement of Farnhamsburg.

The accessibility of the region by way of the Mississippi, and the beauty and fertility of the land, attracted a few hardy settlers in spite of the known hostility of the Indians. During 1828, permanent settlements within the present confines of Rock Island County were made by Captain B. W. Clark, Mr. Haney, Judge Pence, John Kinney, George Harlan, Conrad Leek, and Archibald Allen. These were reinforced the following year by Judge John W. Spencer, Loudon Case, Sr. and his three sons, Rinnah Wells and his four sons, Joseph Danforth, Michael Bartlett, George and Benjamin Goble, Joel Wells, Sr., Levi and Huntington Wells, William Brasher, Joshua Vandruff who with his sons settled Vandruff's Island, and Benjamin

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1. Autobiography of Black Hawk, p. 23.
 2. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 223.
 3. Autobiography of Black Hawk, p. 56.
 4. Past and Present of Rock Island County, Illinois (Chicago: H. F. Kett & Co., 1877), p. 118-21. Hereafter referred to as Past and Present.
 5. County Commissioners' Records, v. A. p. 2.

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F. Pike who was chosen the first sheriff of Rock Island County.¹ Most of these names became familiar in the Black Hawk War and during the formative years of the county.

On October 19, 1829, about sixteen months before the act establishing Rock Island County was passed by the legislature, the first land was entered in that region by George Davenport, Russel Farnham, and William T. Brashar.² Davenport's section included part of the land on which stood the village of the Indians, their graveyard, and Black Hawk's dwelling.³ The other settlers in the neighborhood were squatters on the land; until they could construct cabins of their own, some of them set up housekeeping in Indian wigwams in the village, without the consent of the owners.⁴ Black Hawk was outraged when they took possession, in disregard of the spirit of the treaty of 1804, of part of the village and fields; especially was he incensed at the desecration of the burial grounds of the ancestors for whom the Indians had a sort of religious awe. In addition, his tribesmen were beaten and abused by the whites whenever they ventured to protest.⁵ From year to year the harassed chief found the behavior of the increasing number of squatters on his lands worse than before. He offered to the settlers other lands of which there was an abundance, even lead mines belonging to the tribe, but the settlers would have no dealings with him.⁶

In addition to the step previously taken by the Federal government to nullify legally article seven of the treaty of 1804 by the sale of a few sections of the Indian lands, the state legislature took a further step to dispossess the Indians by an act approved February 9, 1831, cre-

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1. History of Rock Island County, I, 619.
 2. Past and Present, p. 118-21.
 3. Autobiography of Black Hawk, p. 76. Black Hawk's conception of what constitutes real ownership of land is interesting: "My reason teaches me that land cannot be sold. The great Spirit gave it to his children to live upon and cultivate as far as necessary for their subsistence and as long as they occupied and cultivated it they have the right to the soil, but if they voluntarily leave it, then any other people have a right to settle on it. Nothing can be sold but such things as can be carried away." *Ibid.*, p. 72, 73.
 4. History of Rock Island County, I, 636.
 5. "Indian cornfields were fenced in by the intruders, squaws and children were whipped for venturing beyond the bounds thus set, lodges were burned over the heads of the occupants. A reign of terror ensued, in which the frequent remonstrances of Black Hawk to the white authorities were in vain. . . . It is surprising that they acted so peacefully while the victims of such harsh treatment." Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 222.
 6. *Ibid.*

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ating Rock Island as a separate county.¹ By that time there were about three hundred and fifty white inhabitants within the proposed confines of the county, although a good many more settlers were ready to flock to the rich, inviting lands when the obstacle of the Indians should be removed.²

The Black Hawk War

Returning from a hunt in the Spring of 1831, Black Hawk and his band found that their village had been seized by the whites, their fields taken over, and their cemetery plowed up.³ He sought advice from the British agent in Canada and from some of the chiefs of the Potawatomes and Winnebagoes, who encouraged him to resist. He warned the whites that if they would not remove themselves he would use force.⁴ On April 30, 1831, the alarmed settlers, who felt that they were enduring many hardships in settling the land, dispatched a petition to Governor Reynolds setting forth their grievances and danger, and asking him for aid. In contrast to Black Hawk's proud assertion in his autobiography that in spite of provocation there was not a single case of retaliation or even resistance by his people,⁵ the petition gave evidence of the Indians' attempt at recrimination. It read: "We the undersigned being citizens of Rock river and its vicinity, beg leave to state to your honor the grievances which we labor under and pray your protection against the Sac and Fox tribes who have again taken possession of our lands near the mouth of Rock river and its vicinity. They have, and now are, burning our fences, destroying our crops of wheat now growing by turning in all their horses. They also threaten our lives if we attempt to plant corn, and say they will cut it up; that we have stolen their lands from them, and they are determined to exterminate us, provided we don't leave the country. Your honor, no doubt, is aware of the outrages that were committed by said Indians heretofore. Particularly last fall they almost destroyed all our crops, and made several attempts at the owners' lives when they attempted to prevent their depredations, and actually wounded one man by stabbing him in several places. This spring they act in a much more outrageous and menacing manner so that we consider ourselves compelled to beg protection of you, which the agent and garrison on Rock Island refuse to give, in-as-much as they say they have no orders from the government; therefore, should we not receive adequate aid from your honor, we shall be compelled to abandon our settlement, and the lands we have purchased of the government. Therefore we have no doubt your

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1. L.1831, p. 52.
 2. History of Rock Island County, I, 619.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 225.
 5. Autobiography of Black Hawk, p. 74.

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honor will better anticipate our condition than it is represented, and grant us immediate relief in the manner that to you may seem most likely to produce the desired effect. The number of Indians now among us is about 600 or 700 hundred. They say there are some coming and then the Pottowattomies and some of the Winnebagoes will help them in case of an eruption with the whites. The warriors now here are the Black Hawk's party, with other chiefs, the names of whom we are not acquainted with."

The petition was signed by John Wells, B. F. Pike, H. McNeill, Albert Wells, Griffith Ausbury, Thomas Gardner, J. Vandruff, S. Vandruff, Huntington Wells, John L. Bain, Horace Cook, David B. Hail, John Barrel, William Henry, Erastus Kent, Levi Wells, Joel Wells, Michael Bartlett, Thomas Davis, Thomas Lovitt, William Heans, Charles French, M. S. Hulls, Eli Wells, Aspah Wells, G. V. Miller, Edward Burner, Joel Thompson, Joseph Danforth, Samuel Wells, Joel Wells, Jr., William Brasher, J. W. Spencer, Jonah H. Case, Benjamin Goble, and Gentry McCall.¹

The Governor did not respond immediately to the petition and on May 19, 1831, a second petition signed by practically the same people, along with several affidavits, was carried to him by Benjamin F. Pike. This time the Governor was impressed with the danger and issued a call for seven hundred volunteers of mounted militia to move the Indians west of the Mississippi River. He also sent word to General Clarke at St. Louis asking him for the cooperation of the regular forces. The settlers of Rock Island formed themselves into a company named the Rock River Rangers, numbering fifty-eight men, and officered by Benjamin F. Pike as captain, John W. Spencer, first lieutenant, and Griffith Ausbury as second lieutenant.²

Although it was the busy farming season, one thousand six hundred volunteers from all over the state responded to the Governor's call. Joseph Duncan was appointed by the Governor as brigadier general and Samuel Whiteside as major. They left for Rock Island County on June 15, 1831, and encamped on the site of what is now Andalusia. The ten companies of regulars under General Edmund P. Gaines were camped on the site of the City of Rock Island.³ The Indians prudently withdrew to the west of the Mississippi River, and on the thirtieth of June signed a treaty with General Gaines and Governor Reynolds never to return to the east side of the river without permission of the United States government.⁴

Between that period and the early spring of the following year Black Hawk kept up conversations through Neapope, the second in command of the Sacs, with the British agents and the chiefs of some

1. History of Rock Island County, I, 620.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid., I, 621; Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 226.

4. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 226.

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of the tribes who encouraged him with promises of help to regain his village. Accordingly, on the sixth of April, 1832, with about five hundred braves, their women, children, and all their belongings, he recrossed the Mississippi at the Yellow Banks below the mouth of Rock River. He sent messengers to the Potawatomies asking them to meet him in a council of war. The majority of the Potawatomies under the leadership of one of their abler chiefs, Shaubena, decided to pursue a course of neutrality, but a number of hotheads under Chief Big Foot and the despised half-breed British agent Mike Girty were for taking the warpath.¹

Governor Reynolds issued once more a proclamation calling for mounted volunteers, General Atkinson's company of regulars, stationed at the time at Fort Armstrong, not being sufficiently strong to meet the emergency. Among the volunteers was Abraham Lincoln who was a captain in a company of the Fourth Regiment. Jefferson Davis, later president of the Confederacy, was a lieutenant in a company of regulars stationed at Fort Crawford. The entire force of volunteers consisting of sixteen hundred men, almost all mounted, were placed under the charge of Brigadier General Samuel Whiteside with the Governor as major general, and sworn into the United States service by General Atkinson at Fort Armstrong on the seventh of May.² A company of Rock Island settlers was formed and assigned to frontier duty in a battalion of mounted men commanded by Major Samuel Bogart. This company was mustered out along with all volunteers at Macomb, Illinois, September 4, 1832. Another company, comprised of settlers from Rock Island and adjacent counties and officered by Captain Seth Pratt did garrison duty at Fort Armstrong from April 21 to June 30, 1832, when it was mustered out. George Davenport who acted as a quartermaster, was advanced by Governor Reynolds to the rank of colonel, by which title he was known the remainder of his life.³

The pursuit of Black Hawk, beginning the Black Hawk War, had become by this time a national sensation. The chief actor himself later claimed that he had no intention of starting hostilities. He made several attempts to bring the quarrel to a peaceful conclusion, but owing to a misunderstanding of his intentions nothing came of it.⁴ The settlers of Rock Island, although their county had been legally created fifteen months previously, were unable to perfect its organization because of the constant threat of the savages. The inhabitants of the state generally felt that the Black Hawk issue had to be settled with some finality. The fact that many prospective settlers were kept from the northwestern part of the state through fear of the Indians was an additional

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1. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 230, 231.
 2. Ibid., p. 233, 234.
 3. History of Rock Island County, I, 623.
 4. Ibid.; Autobiography of Black Hawk, p. 96, 101.

Historical Sketch

potent reason for bringing the matter to a conclusion. The chase lasted from May 9 to August 2, 1832, when the main body of the tribe was encountered on the Mississippi at the mouth of Bad Axe River in the present state of Wisconsin. There the famous battle of Bad Axe was fought, resulting in the almost complete annihilation of the Sac tribe. Out of a band of ten hundred, including women and children, who had crossed the Mississippi at the Yellow Banks three months previously, only about one hundred and fifty survived. The American forces under General Atkinson numbered about forty hundred, including Colonel Henry Dodge's Michigan (now Wisconsin) Rangers. The white losses were about two hundred and fifty dead from cholera which was raging at the time, and the same number killed in action, including settlers killed and massacred. The financial cost to the nation and the state of Illinois amounted to about two millions of dollars.¹

On August 27, Black Hawk and White Cloud, a Winnebago chief known as the Prophet, and the guiltiest in misleading Black Hawk, were captured by two Winnebago braves and delivered to the authorities.² On September 21, 1832, a treaty of peace was signed with the tribe at Fort Armstrong; Black Hawk, the Prophet, and Neapope were kept as hostages for the good behavior of the rest of the band. For a time the chief was kept prisoner in Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; later, to impress him with the power of the whites, he was taken through the principal cities of the East where his proud demeanor and noble composure in the face of his bitter defeat, won him universal acclaim. He was returned to Fort Armstrong where the military authorities put him under the guardianship of his rival, Keokuk.³ In 1838, at the age of 71, he passed away at his home in Davis County, Iowa.⁴

After his death, and the pacification of other tribes consequent to the outcome of the war, the high qualities of the Sac chief began to be recognized in many ways. No one could deny that he had been a brave fighter and an able strategist in battle, or that he had been completely loyal to his people. His name has been perpetuated by the Black Hawk State Park in Rock Island County, situated on the site of his old village, and by a forty-eight foot statue which stands about five miles north of Oregon, in Ogle County, Illinois. The statue is the work of Lorado Taft and is not a likeness of the old chief, but an idealized conception of the aborigines who once were lords of the land.⁵

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1. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 259,260.
 2. Ibid., p. 261,262. In his Autobiography, Black Hawk said that he, with several Winnebagoes, went to Prairie du Chien and gave himself up voluntarily, p. 111.
 3. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 261,262.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Illinois Blue Book, 1935,1936, ed. Edward J. Hughes, Secretary of State, p. 420.

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Civil and Political Development

Organization of the County

After the defeat of the Indians and their removal west of the Mississippi, the country around Rock River became the scene of rapid settlement. The war had directed national attention to the resources of the Northwest. Publicity through newspapers and pamphlets incidental to the war, describing the country and extolling its beauty and desirability, resulted in a tremendous influx of immigrants, especially from the north-eastern states.¹ During 1836 and 1837, nine new counties were created by the state legislature in the northern part of Illinois.²

Previous to the establishment of Rock Island as a separate county in 1831, that territory was attached for judicial purposes to Jo Daviess County³ which at that time had jurisdiction over a large, sparsely populated section of Illinois, with Galena as the principal town. Because of the intervening Indian situation, Rock Island remained attached to Jo Daviess until the first election of county officers on July 5, 1833.⁴

The enabling act of 1831 gave the boundaries of Rock Island as follows: "beginning at a point in the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river, where the north line of township fifteen north of the military bounty tract intersects the same; thence east with the said line to the fourth principal meridian; thence north with said meridian to the middle of the main channel of Rock river; thence up the middle of the main channel of Rock river with the meanders thereof, to the confluence of Marais d'ogee slough, or creek, with said river; thence along the middle of the said Marais d'ogee slough, or creek, to the Mississippi river and to a point in the middle of the main channel thereof, thence down along the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river, to the place of beginning."⁵ This boundary of Rock Island remains to the present, although in 1854 in "An Act to perfect the line between Rock Island and Whiteside Counties," some slight change in the boundary contiguous to Whiteside was made;⁶ the original line, however, was restored by a legislative act of March 29, 1869, repealing the act of 1854.⁷

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1. Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 262.
 2. Counties of Illinois, Their Origin and Evolution, ed. Edward J. Hughes, Secretary of State (printed by authority of the State of Illinois, 1934), p. 15. Hereafter referred to as Counties of Illinois.
 3. Past and Present, p. 125, 126.
 4. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 1, 9.
 5. L.1831, p. 52.
 6. L.1854, p. 161.
 7. L.1869, p. 161.

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On March 1, 1833, the legislature passed and approved another act for the organization of the county.¹ The act named three commissioners for the county who were to locate a permanent seat of justice to be called Stephenson in commemoration of Colonel Benjamin Stephenson, and provided for the election of county commissioners, a sheriff, three justices of the peace, three constables, and a coroner.² The election was held on July 5, 1833, in the house of John Barrel in Farnhamsburg, which occupied the site of the present city of Rock Island.³ The judges in this election were Joseph Danforth, Joel Wells, Sr., and William H. Sims. The total of votes cast was sixty-five, and the officers elected were George W. Harlan, John W. Spencer, and Colonel George Davenport, county commissioners; Benjamin F. Pike, sheriff; Levi Wells, coroner; George W. Harlan, J. B. Patterson, and Joel Wells, Jr., justices of the peace; George V. Miller, Huntington Wells, and Edward Corbin, constables.⁴

On the eighth of July, 1833, the county commissioners met at a special term at which they fixed the house of John Barrel in Farnhamsburg as the temporary seat of justice for holding the circuit and county commissioners' courts and for elections. Joseph Conway was appointed clerk of the court, and Joel Wells, Sr., treasurer; their bonds were \$1,000 and \$500 respectively.⁵ The court levied a tax of one-half percent on the following property: "on town lots, if such lots be not taxed by the trustees of such town, on slaves and indentured or registered negro or mulatto servants, on pleasure carriages, on distilleries, on all horses, mares, mules, asses and neat cattle, above three years of age, and on watches with their appendages and on household furniture, on clocks, on all wagons and carts, and also on all sheep."⁶ A license to keep a tavern was granted to Jonah H. Case at a tax of \$5.00 per year with a requirement that he post a bond. The rates he was permitted to charge as established by the court were, for each gallon of corn or oats, 12½ cents; for a meal, 37½ cents; for lodging, 25 cents; for a half pint of brandy or gin, 50 cents; for half pint of whiskey, 12½ cents; for a quart of cider, porter, or ale, 25 cents; for horse feed day and night, 75 cents.⁷

On August 29, the court met at another special term for the sole purpose of appointing William Brazer, or Brashar - both spellings are given in the record - and William Carr as commissioners to select school lands for the fractional townships.⁸

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1. L.1833, p. 17.
 2. Ibid., p. 17,18.
 3. History of Rock Island County, I, 657.
 4. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 3.
 5. Ibid., p. 4,5.
 6. Ibid., p. 3.
 7. Ibid., p. 4.
 8. Ibid., p. 5.

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At the term of court in September a license was granted to Thomas F. Reid to sell merchandise in the county; a petition from citizens of the county for a road from Farnhamsburg to Monmouth in Warren County was accepted, and viewers for the road were appointed by the court; the sheriff was ordered to dispose of strays found within the county; Joseph Conway was allowed \$6.50 for furnishing three order books for the use of county officers, and the commissioners allowed themselves \$1.50 per day for their services.¹ On December 2, 1833, Benjamin F. Fike, the sheriff of Rock Island County, appeared in court and made settlement for taxes collected in the sum of \$53.72³/₄. Joel Wells, the assessor and treasurer, rendered his account for \$34, of which, \$15 was for licenses paid to him, and \$19 for fines.²

Continuing the task of organizing and administering the affairs of the new county, the county commissioners at the March, 1834 term, granted a license to George Davenport and Joshua Vandruff to establish a ferry across Rock River "opposite to where Joshua Vandruff lives." The rates for ferriage were established by the court.³ A license for another ferry across Rock River was issued to Rinnah Wells, and George Davenport obtained a license for a ferry across the slough opposite Rock Island.⁴ The court ordered the sheriff to summon a grand jury, and divided the county into two road districts, one named Maraidosee, and the other, the Rock River district.⁵

On March 4, 1834, the court accepted a petition from many inhabitants of the county asking that a post office be established in the county seat. They showed in the petition that the existing post office on Rock Island was troublesome and expensive to reach. The court, thereupon, ordered a request dispatched to the Postmaster General of the United States to establish a post office at Rock Island courthouse and recommended Joseph Conway as a fit person for postmaster.⁶

At the next term, convened on June 2, the court divided the county into two election precincts to be called the Upper and Lower precincts and named three election judges for each.⁷ The name of the Lower was changed to Rock River in 1835, and a third precinct, named West, was established.⁸

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1. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 7-10.
 2. Ibid., p. 11,12.
 3. Ibid., p. 15.
 4. Ibid., p. 16,18.
 5. Ibid., p. 14,17.
 6. Ibid., p. 19.
 7. Ibid., p. 25.
 8. Ibid., p. 64.

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Selection of Permanent County Seat

For some unexplained reason the commissioners appointed by the legislature in the act of 1833 to select a permanent county seat for Rock Island failed to do so, and the courts continued to sit in the temporary seat of justice, the house of John Barrel in Farnhamsburg, without plans for county buildings. On February 12, 1835, the legislature once more approved an act appointing commissioners to select a site for the permanent county seat.¹ The commissioners were William Bennett of Jo Daviess County, Peter Butler of Warren County, and John G. Sanburn of Knox County. On June 8, 1835, the commissioners reported to the county commissioners' court that they had selected the northwest fractional quarter of section thirty-five in township eighteen north of range two west of the fourth principal meridian as the permanent seat of justice for the county of Rock Island.²

In accordance with a provision in the act the site was named Stephenson. It was situated on public land next to Farnhamsburg; the two towns were later to become the city of Rock Island. The court appointed Charles R. Bennett to survey the town of Stephenson and ordered the insertion of notices in the St. Louis Republican, Alton Spectator, Northwestern Gazette, and Galena Advertiser of a sale of town lots to take place on July 11.³ The county purchased from the government for the site of public buildings the northwest fractional quarter of section thirty-five, township eighteen, range two west;⁴ the plat of the town of Stephenson, certified by Charles R. Bennett, was recorded on July 10, 1835.⁵ On October 20, 1835, the court decreed that thereafter the circuit and commissioners' courts be held in Stephenson, and that all elections in that precinct and all county business be conducted in the new county seat.⁶ The town of Stephenson was incorporated on October 21, 1837.⁷ In 1841, the name was changed by legislative act to Rock Island, after the island in the Mississippi, and the town was reincorporated under that name.⁸

Early Public Buildings

Six months after removal of the courts to Stephenson, the county commissioners took steps to build a courthouse for the young county. On March 7, 1836, the court decreed "that notice be given in the Northwestern Gazette and Galena Advertiser for Three weeks, that County Commissioners

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1. L.1835, p. 159.
 2. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 60-62.
 3. Ibid., p. 62, 65, 70, 71.
 4. History of Rock Island County, I, 639.
 5. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, 67, 68; Deed Record, v. A, p. 4.
 6. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 114.
 7. Ibid., p. 269; History of Rock Island County, I, 657.
 8. L.1841, p. 348.

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will contract for one hundred and fifty thousand good Bricks to build a Court House in the Town of Stephenson, which brick are to be delivered on the public square . . . also for a foundation of stone work and necessary timbers for Court House."¹ Brick and stone courthouses were unusual in the state at that period. Almost universally, the first such structures in the new counties were modest log houses costing a few hundred dollars. Rock Island County, however, was prosperous from the earliest years. Joel Wells, the treasurer, reported on March 9, 1836, that there was a favorable balance in the county treasury of \$2,148.97 $\frac{1}{2}$.² The county was even in a position to loan out sizable sums of money at ten percent interest.³

Advertisements for bids to build the courthouse were ordered to be published in the Northwestern Gazette, the Galena Advertiser, the Missouri Republican, and the Carrollton Times.⁴ The bid of Samuel Smith of \$10,500 being the lowest, was accepted by the court June 6, 1836.⁵ Jonah H. Case was awarded the contract for the bricks.⁶ On September 12, 1837, Smith was authorized to contract for 32,000 additional bricks, for which Harvey Leonard was paid \$330.72.⁷ The bricks were of home manufacture; brick making was the first industry in Rock Island County, the raw material being abundantly available close to Stephenson. The courthouse was two stories high and 50 feet square; the lower story two and one-half bricks thick, the upper story two bricks thick. The foundation of stone was 7 feet high and 2 feet thick; the total cost was \$12,100.⁸ The courthouse was completed and accepted in June, 1838; at the same time a board fence costing \$64 was built around it.⁹ In the meantime the courts were held in the house of L. and C. H. Case, while the juries were accommodated in the house of Thomas Trickel.¹⁰

In frontier communities, which attracted, along with the constructive and law-abiding element, also unruly characters, it was less convenient to do without a jail than without a courthouse. Plans to erect a jail in Stephenson were made before the building of the courthouse. Previous to the acquisition of a jail, Rock Island criminals were sent to Monmouth for confinement.¹¹ On October 20, 1835, the county commissioners entered

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1. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 126.
 2. Ibid., p. 137.
 3. Ibid., p. 80,81,83.
 4. Ibid., p. 146.
 5. Ibid., p. 155,156.
 6. Ibid., p. 145.
 7. Ibid., p. 257,261.
 8. Ibid., p. 240; History of Rock Island County, I, 640.
 9. County Commissioners' Records, v. B, p. 7,8.
 10. Ibid., p. 144,145.
 11. History of Rock Island County, I, 639.

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into a contract with John W. Spencer to build a jail to cost \$745. The structure was to be of heavy white oak timber, 22 feet square and two stories high.¹ An additional \$33.50 was paid the contractor for extra work and the jail was accepted by the court in June, 1836.² This jail served only until March, 1840, when a brick building built by Daniel Doty was completed.³

Changes in Government

With increasing population and diversification of industries came changes in the form of the county's government. The county commissioners' court in which had been vested administrative and limited judicial powers was done away with by the Constitution of 1848 and the laws of 1849 in favor of a county court with dual functions: judicial and administrative.⁴ The county court when hearing judicial matters was presided over by the county judge, sitting alone; the county court when dealing with county administrative matters was composed of the county judge and two associate justices. Under the new law, John W. Spencer was elected county judge with Thomas J. Robinson and James Weaverling as associate justices.⁵

The second and last change in form of government came with the general election of November, 1856. In September of that year,⁶ a number of voters of the county petitioned the court to submit to the citizens in the ensuing election the question of township organization in accordance with an act approved by the legislature February 17, 1851.⁷ In that election, the vote favoring the township form was a decisive total of 2,314, while only 147 votes were opposed.⁸

After this election, the county court appointed Lemuel Andrews, Nathaniel Belcher, and F. J. Whitney as commissioners to divide Rock Island County into townships.⁹ The commissioners cut up the county into fourteen townships which they named Cordova, Port Byron, Canoe Creek, Fremont, Hampton, Walker, Moline, Coal Valley, Rock Island, Camden, Edgington, Bowling, Buffalo, and Drury.¹⁰ Since then the names of some of the townships have been changed, and with increased population new ones have been added. At present there are eighteen townships: Andalusia,

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1. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 115, 117.
 2. Ibid., p. 160.
 3. Ibid., v. B, p. 71, 73, 118, 119.
 4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17, 19; L. 1849, p. 65, 66.
 5. County Commissioners' Records, v. C, p. 308.
 6. Ibid., v. D, p. 317.
 7. L. 1851, p. 35.
 8. County Commissioners' Records, v. D, p. 333.
 9. Ibid., p. 341.
 10. Supervisors' Records (Papers), Box 1135.

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Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Canoe Creek, Coal Valley, Coe, Cordova, Drury, Edgington, Hampton, Moline, Port Byron, Rock Island, Rural, South Moline, South Rock Island, and Zuma.¹

In accordance with a law enacted in 1874 providing for the election of additional supervisors in proportion to population,² the county board in Rock Island County has from time to time expanded its membership beyond the required one supervisor for each township. Under the present organization, the board consists of eighteen supervisors and sixteen assistant supervisors.³

Economic Development

Early Enterprises

Rock Island is at present, and has been for a number of years among the leading manufacturing counties in the state. Its development has been to a considerable extent the result of its natural resources, and of its geographical position, lying as it does at the crossroads of the enormously rich Mississippi Valley, and possessing a sixty-mile front along the river. The Mississippi and Rock rivers have provided navigation facilities and water power. Rich veins of coal have aided in the development of its cities as industrial and manufacturing centers. The fertility and beauty of the land, widely publicized during and after the Black Hawk incident, early attracted large numbers of energetic pioneers who in the space of a few decades changed the wilderness to a land humming with a variety of enterprises.

Beginning with a population of 350 at its creation in 1831, the county grew to 2,610 in 1840.⁴ Between 1840 and the following census at the midcentury, the normal flow of immigrants from the northeastern states to Rock Island County, augmented by European immigration brought the number to 6,937.⁵ Between 1850 and 1870, the two decades of intense railroad construction, industrial development, and foreign immigration, the population in the county more than quadrupled, reaching 29,783 by the latter date.⁶ From 1870 the population continued to increase heavily, reaching

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1. Population Bulletin, Illinois, Fifteenth Census of the United States 1930 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1930), p. 31. Hereafter referred to as Population Bulletin.
 2. R.S.1874, p. 1075.
 3. For a fuller discussion of the addition of assistant supervisors, see County Board, p. 93, 94.
 4. Past and Present, p. 85.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Population Bulletin, p. 31.

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70,404 in 1910 and 92,297 in 1920. At the time of the United States census in 1930, there were 98,191 inhabitants in Rock Island County.¹ The change from an agricultural to an industrial county is factually illustrated by the 1930 figures on distribution of population. Of the 98,191 inhabitants in the county only 7,737 or 7.9 percent constituted the rural farm population;² the remainder are concentrated in the industrial centers and smaller towns of the county.

The early pioneers settled on farms and depended on agriculture for their living. There were only a few merchants, dealing in such manufactured articles and groceries as could not be produced by the ingenuity of the settler and his wife. A few tavern keepers who dealt in refreshment, food, and shelter for the wayfarer and his beast; manufacturers of building products, and contractors, indispensable in new communities; ferry and mill operators, and shoemakers and blacksmiths, comprised practically the whole business personnel in early Rock Island County.

To an extent, business development was retarded in the early years by the lack of a dependable medium of exchange. Because of a number of disastrous bank failures in Illinois and neighboring states, bank notes were held under suspicion while specie was, of necessity scarce. The predominating currency within the counties was county orders, usually bearing ten percent interest. But since they were guaranteed by nothing more substantial than an official promise to pay - a condition full of uncertainties in the early years of a county - they were often disposed of in Rock Island County at from ten to fifty percent below par depending upon the proximity to the time they could be disposed of in payment of taxes. During the incumbency of J. M. Gould as county judge, 1853-57 the plan was adopted to borrow money to pay all warrants. This action brought the warrants to par and held them there.³

By 1837, land companies were formed to boom the sale of farm land and town sites in Rock Island County. Among these was the Rock River Land Company which named a tract in the vicinity of Rock River near Milan, "Rock Island City." Daniel Webster purchased a one-eighth interest in that tract for \$60,000. But when he discovered that the site was not the city of Rock Island and that the land he bought was three miles away, he hurriedly sold out to eastern capitalists.⁴

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1. Population Bulletin, p. 31.
 2. Information Pertaining to Farm, Home, and Community (Urbana: University of Illinois, mimeographed, 1936), p. 2. Hereafter referred to as Farm, Home, and Community.
 3. J. M. Gould, Oration and Address, Delivered at the Laying of the Corner Stone of the New Rock Island County Court House (Rock Island: Kramer, Bleuer & Co., 1895), p. 36,38.
 4. History of Rock Island County, I, 631.

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Brick manufacturing, centering in the present South Rock Island Township where the proper clays are found, developed rapidly to meet the great demand for building materials. Jonah H. Case is considered the first of the famous Rock Island farm implement manufacturers to produce plows; these were wooden implements with a steel tip - steel imported from England.¹ In 1847, John Deere, who invented the all steel plow, the first great improvement in farm implements, moved his factory from Grand Detour, Illinois, to Moline.² Undoubtedly his motive for moving was the greater convenience of distributing his product to the farmers by way of the Mississippi River and its many tributaries. In 1830, his output was ten plows; by the time he moved to Moline he could not produce enough to supply the demand.³

Transportation

Settled on the banks of two large rivers, the inhabitants of Rock Island County had, along with the advantages, the problem of communication between settlements. The enterprising Colonel George Davenport established a public ferry across the Mississippi between Farnhamsburg and Davenport, Iowa, as early as 1825. The ferry was operated in two sections, one crossing the "slough," or the Illinois channel of the river, to the island of Rock Island, and the other crossing the main channel to the Iowa shore. The rates he charged for ferrying a man and horse across the river were \$1.25; for a two-horse team, \$2.00, and for a single passenger, 25 cents. The crew of the ferry consisted of two carsmen and a man at the helm to steer.⁴

Davenport and Joshua Vandruff applied to the county commissioners' court in March, 1834, for a license to operate a ferry across Rock River; the court charged a fee of \$8.00 for the license and imposed a bond of \$250.00. Ferry rates across Rock River as established by the court were: for a passenger, 12½ cents; man and horse, 25 cents; yoke of oxen, 37½ cents; for a loaded wagon and a yoke of oxen or team of horses, \$1.00; head of cattle, 16½ cents; and hogs or sheep, at 14 cents.⁵ The rates for ferriage across the Mississippi were about twice as high.⁶

Until later years when business enterprises began to concentrate into fewer hands, the ferry business in Rock Island County was conducted by a rather large number of individual business firms. During 1834 and 1835, entries in the county records show that seven separate ferry licenses were issued by the court. They were to Rinnah Wells and to Davenport and

1. History of Rock Island County, I, 752.

2. Ibid., p. 763.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid., p. 635.

5. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 15-17.

6. Ibid., p. 48.

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Vandruff across the Rock River, and to J. H. Case, William Brasher, and Antoine Le Claire, Ben W. Clark, E. A. Philip, and Davenport and Le Claire across the Mississippi River.¹

Le Claire established his ferry of flat boats across the Mississippi below the island in 1834. His ferry was the more popular because there was no change of boats to be made in the crossing. Two years later, he sold his equipment and franchise to Captain John Wilson. In 1842, Captain Wilson put on a steam ferry, the first of its kind on the Mississippi above² St. Louis, for which he received authorization by an act of the legislature. For some reason, however, that ferry was discontinued and not replaced until 1852. In 1855, the firm of Spencer, Robinson and Company, a development of Captain Wilson's enterprise, added to its fleet the steam ferry "Davenport" which became a government transport during the Civil War.³

To George Davenport and Antoine Le Claire, the ferry business was only incidental in their colorful careers. They were two of the most respected and liked individuals in Rock Island County, and were known throughout the state and beyond its limits. Davenport was the first white civilian in the present Rock Island County, accompanying the garrison of Fort Armstrong in 1816. He was commissary to the garrison, fur trader, Indian agent, a colonel in the Black Hawk War, served in various county offices, and was a large land owner, operator of ferries, and a partner with Le Claire in the successful iron and brass foundry and machine shop of Le Claire, Davenport and Company, in Davenport, Iowa. In 1845, he was wantonly murdered in his home on the island by members of the band of criminals known as the Banditti of the Prairie. Because of his popularity, the murder aroused the indignation of citizens throughout the state against the bandits. The criminals were apprehended and executed in Rock Island County after a sensational trial.⁴

Davenport's friend, Antoine Le Claire, was in the employ of the government from 1816 to 1836 as interpreter in negotiations with the Indians for concluding a number of important treaties. He was of French and Indian extraction, spoke French fluently, and was familiar with a dozen or more Indian dialects. During the negotiations for the treaty of 1832, which were held in Davenport because of a cholera epidemic among the soldiers of the fort, the Sac chief made a gift of a mile square of land on the Iowa shore to Mrs. Le Claire, who was the daughter of an Indian chief. The Potawatomies also presented Le Claire with a square mile of land on the present site of Moline which he later sold at \$1.25 per acre. Le Claire laid out the town of Davenport in 1836, naming it after his lifelong friend and associate

1. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 15,48,49,56,78,101,102.

2. L.1841, p. 161.

3. History of Rock Island County, I, 635,636.

4. Past and Present, p. 121; History of Rock Island County, I, 724.

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The quarter section upon which the original town was laid out was bought by Le Claire for \$75 from Dr. Spencer and a Mr. McCloud. The first locomotive of the Rock Island and Pacific to enter Davenport bore the name of Le Claire and an impress of his likeness upon it.¹

Access to Stephenson was made difficult by a swamp back of the town which became impassable in rainy seasons. At the September, 1835 term of the commissioners' court a contract for a bridge across the swamp, costing \$759.63 1/3, was awarded to Michael Bartlett.² In 1844, Dickson, Vandruff, and Kalbaugh were the contractors for the first bridge across Rock River between Vandruff's Island and the south shore. At the same time the county commissioners were examining a contract and specifications for a free bridge over Rock River from the north shore to Vandruff's Island.³ A plank road and bridges over Rock River were acquired by the city of Rock Island from private operators. Formerly the high tolls over them diverted trade from the city; after they became the property of the city, the tolls were reduced materially and were finally abolished altogether in 1910. The road to Milan and the six bridges cost the city upward of \$250,000.⁴

Vandruff, Kalbaugh, and Thomas G. Patterson in October, 1843, received permission from the court to build the first mill dam in Rock Island County, reaching from Vandruff's Island across to the south bank of a branch of the Rock River near the present city of Milan.⁵ The following year a dam was constructed across the south branch of the Mississippi from the island to the Illinois shore by David B. Sears and his associates. The dam created water power for several saw and grist mills which sprang up along the river, and later attracted many industries which took advantage of the cheap and abundant water power of the river.⁶

From 1848, the date which practically marked the end of the frontier in Illinois, Rock Island County made rapid progress. The city of Rock Island was already famous as one of the chief river towns on the upper Mississippi. Before the advent of the railroad, communication between Rock Island and the other settled parts of the state was by river in the season of open navigation, and after 1848, by Frink and Walker's line of stages. The stage made a daily run to Chicago from Rock Island and Moline, which took, on good roads, about thirty hours; to St. Louis, forty to forty-eight hours.⁷

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1. Rock Island and Its Surroundings in 1853 (Rock Island: H. A. Parker and Brothers, 1854), p. 23, 26-28.
 2. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 88, 125, 126.
 3. History of Rock Island County, I, 639.
 4. Ibid., 658.
 5. County Commissioners' Records, v. C, p. 2; History of Rock Island County, I, 639.
 6. History of Rock Island County, I, 646.
 7. Ibid., I, 647.

Historical Sketch

In the eighteen-fifties, railroad-building activity in Illinois was gathering great momentum, and the topic was the preoccupation of the inhabitants the length and breadth of the state. The Rock Island county court at its session on December 12, 1853, subscribed for the county, \$100,000 of capital stock in the proposed Warsaw and Rockford Railroad.¹ The project, however, was not carried out and ultimately the county lost about \$200,000, excluding interest on the bonds and losses by private citizens.² In the meantime, the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad was in process of construction toward Rock Island County; the result was a boom of all property values, especially farms and town lots. In 1853, the year before completion of the first railroad through the county, an editor of the Chicago Democratic Press, visiting in Rock Island County, wrote, "Consequent upon the increased activity which the near approval and expected early completion of the railroad has produced here, is an enhancement of the value of real estate. Property in all parts of the city has gone up in price from twenty-five to one hundred percent; while in some particular localities the rate of increase has been greater. Nevertheless, real estate here cannot be considered as having reached a merely speculative value. . . . I have this opinion upon the belief that here, at this crossing of the Mississippi river, is ultimately to concentrate a vast amount of business . . . nor is the enhanced value of real estate . . . confined to the city. The price at which both improved and wild lands, contiguous to the city, and along the line of the railroad as held, is a large advance upon what were the asking rates one year ago. I hear of some instances in which lands entered less than eighteen months since with warrants, costing the purchaser from 87½ cents to \$1.12½ per acre, have recently been disposed of at from five to ten dollars per acre." And prophetically, "They are richly worth the money now paid, and the present possessors, if they retain them a few years, will be able to sell them at quite as large an advance as the preceding owners realized."³

The completion of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad in February, 1854, made the first direct overland connection between Rock Island and the Atlantic seaboard. Other railroad systems entering the county since then are the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy; Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific; Rock Island and Peoria; Rock Island Southern; and Davenport, Rock Island and Northwestern. The total main trackage in the county is ninety-one miles; the assessed value of railroad property for 1933 was \$4,184,741.⁴

1. County Commissioners' Records, v. D, p. 103.

2. History of Rock Island County, I, 775.

3. Rock Island and Its Surroundings in 1853, p. 8.

4. Report of the Illinois Tax Commission Assessment Year 1933 (Printed by the Authority of the State of Illinois), p. 163, 507.

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Of rural roads in the county there is a total of 745.5 miles by the figures of 1939, of which 552.3 miles are surfaced with concrete, brick, bituminous, metal, and oil.¹

The communication facilities in the county have been further augmented by an airport at Moline, and by the Hennepin Canal, also known as the Illinois and Mississippi Canal. The Illinois legislature gave its approval to build the canal by an act of February 15, 1865,² but actual construction did not begin until 1892; it was completed in 1908 at a cost of about \$75,000,000.³ The canal, located two miles south of the city of Rock Island, connects the Mississippi with the Great Lakes by way of the Illinois-Michigan Canal. The entire link extends seventy-seven miles, of which fifty miles is canal, and twenty-seven miles slack-water navigation down the Rock River.⁴ The canal is used to this day by the International Harvester Company and other firms for shipping materials by barge.

Industries

The advantage of the central location of Rock Island County and its highly developed transportation facilities have attracted and stimulated the growth of a number of internationally known manufactories. The Farm-all Works of the International Harvester Company is one of the largest tractor plants in the world. The J. I. Case Company, manufacturing tractors and threshing machines as well as other agricultural implements, distribute their products in the United States, Canada, and other countries. Deere and Company, the oldest and most famous of Moline's farm implement manufactories, and the Rock Island Sash and Door Works, manufacturing various mill products, are among the largest establishments of their kind in the country.

Among the other leading products of the county's manufactories are steam engines, woodworking machinery, malleable iron castings, paints, automobile supplies, electrical household appliances, stoves, food products, toys, footwear, and clothing. In 1927, a normal year, there were 152 manufacturing establishments in the county, employing an average of 12,247 wage earners with a payroll of \$17,223,817. In that year the value of the output of the industries was \$79,584,408.⁵ In the peak year of business prosperity in 1929 the number of wage earners in the

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1. Letter from O. F. Goeke, District Engineer, Division of Highways, September 19, 1939.
 2. Private L.1865, p. 209.
 3. The New International Encyclopedia (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1920), IV, 448.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Census of Manufactures, 1927, Illinois (Washington: Department of Commerce, typed), p. 3.

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county reached 15,994, drawing a payroll of \$22,620,099. Then came the great financial panic and business crisis known by the polite and gentle term of "depression", the effects of which are graphically told in the employment and payroll figures in the county as well as throughout the nation. From 15,994 wage earners in Rock Island County in 1929, the drop was to 6,796 in 1933, wages shrinking for the respective years from \$22,620,099 to \$5,764,449. Value of products dropped for the same years from \$112,784,519 to \$22,573,919.¹ However, many of the county's industries being readily convertible for the supply of war needs, there is at present, with the European war in progress, a definite revival of employment in Rock Island.

The coal produced in the county's six mines, amounting to 45,261 tons in 1937, is used up entirely by the local industries. All of the mines except one at Moline are located in Coal Valley.² At Cordova is located a limestone plant, operated by the United States Gypsum Company, producing 52,522 tons of limestone in 1937, and three sand and gravel plants at the cities of Rock Island and Sylviss, producing in the same year 86,248 tons.³

Of the 271,360 acres of land in Rock Island County, 86.5 percent is under cultivation, divided, by the 1935 figures, into 1,873 farms.⁴ Corn, oats, and wheat are the predominant crops raised. In recent years, in keeping with the trend throughout the state, soybean planting is increasing in acreage. The sand soils around Moline and the city of Rock Island are well adapted to gardening, and as a good market is readily available, truck gardening and fruit growing are a profitable source of income. In addition, livestock and poultry raising and dairying are well developed. In 1919, the value of crops raised in the county was estimated at \$6,738,106; the same year the value of livestock was over \$6,000,000.⁵

Social Development

Education

Schools, churches, newspapers, and other activities of a social nature paralleled closely the economic progress in Rock Island County and the state. Up to the eighteen-fifties, when the foundations of an educational system in Illinois were laid, the support of schools and edu-

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1. Biennial Census of Manufacturers, 1933, Illinois, p. 11.
 2. Fifty-sixth Coal Report, Illinois (Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois, 1937), p. 86,87,146,147.
 3. Ibid., p. 280,283,284.
 4. Farm, Home, and Community, p. 3.
 5. Rock Island County Soils, p. 2.

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cation depended on the money realized from the sale of school lands granted by Congress to Illinois at its admission into the Union, on private individuals and religious associations who endowed educational institutions, and on the ministers who often served as teachers of the young along with their religious activities, and generally exercised a liberalizing influence on the pioneer element in the West.

Because of a lack of funds in the early years of the new counties and the absence of comprehensive laws for the administration of the school lands, these lands were quickly sold out by the counties and the interest from the proceeds used for school purposes. In September, 1836, the county commissioners of Rock Island appointed Elophates Cook as commissioner and agent in charge of the disposition of school lands, with William Brashar, Rinnah Wells, and Jonah H. Case as trustees.¹ The following year, two school districts called Milan and Pleasant Valley were established by the court.²

In 1854, under Governor Joel A. Matteson, a law was approved by the legislature providing for an elective state superintendent of schools, the permanent office to be set up two years later. A temporary appointee of the Governor was Ninian W. Edwards who drew up a bill for a general system of free schools. With some additions and amendments by the General Assembly, the bill included provisions for state and local school taxes and for a free school in every district for six months in the year.³ One important result of this act was the improvement in the caliber of the teachers as the law required that candidates for teaching positions must qualify by passing examinations.

A state teachers' institute was organized in Bloomington in 1853, which began to exercise a constructive influence in the cause of education.⁴ The movement later took the form of county institutes; since all teachers were expected to attend, this medium for the encouragement of progressive methods of education was far-reaching in its effects. About the same time a public library was organized in the city of Rock Island, and in 1872, a library was started in Moline.⁵

The county school records in Rock Island begin with the school year 1859-60. In that year there were sixty-six public schools in the county, employing 161 teachers. The total enrollment, excluding high schools, for the school year 1911-12 was 10,654; the cost of education in the county in

1. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 183, 184.

2. Ibid., p. 158.

3. Arthur Charles Cole, The Era of the Civil War, 1848-1870 (Chicago: A. C. McClurg and Co., 1919), p. 233; L.1854, p. 13-15; L.1855, p. 51ff.

4. The Era of the Civil War, p. 232, 236.

5. History of Rock Island County, I, 780.

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1912, amounted to \$474,166.¹ In 1934 the cost of education came to \$1,099,255, with a school enrollment of 17,183. The value of school property in the same year was \$4,743,479.²

One of the notable educational institutions in the state, Augustana College, is located in the heart of the Quad-Cities whose combined population is approximately two hundred thousand. In 1860, the Augustana College and Theological Seminary was organized at a convention of Scandinavians held in Chicago. The college was first located in Chicago, and later moved to Paxton, but because of the large Scandinavian population in Rock Island County the decision was made to locate the institution there. Originally organized by Swedes and Norwegians, by mutual consent of the two groups, the college in 1870 became a Swedish institution supported by the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod.³ At first the college functioned for the purpose of training ministers for the Swedish Lutheran Church, with the Swedish language as the medium of instruction. From about 1880, the curriculum began to be expanded to include courses outside the theological field; special interest was centered in a school of music.⁴

The campus, comprising approximately forty acres, lies on the banks of the Mississippi River; the property of the institution is valued at about \$1,400,000.⁵ Here, among the college buildings, is located the Denkmann Memorial Library containing approximately seventy thousand bound volumes and about the same number of unbound periodicals, reports, and records, together with a historical museum housing collections of general historical interest as well as much material dealing particularly with the settlement of the Swedes in America.⁶ Augustana College is given a Class A rating by the University of Illinois. Its present officers are Dr. P. Arthur Johnson, president; Dr. John A. Christenson, vice president; Mrs. K. T. Anderson, secretary; and Carl H. Swanson, treasurer.⁷

Religious Activities

The early churches made distinct and important contributions to the civilization and development of Illinois and the West. Besides satisfy-

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1. History of Rock Island County, I, 700,701.
 2. Farm, Home, and Community, p. 61.
 3. History of Rock Island County, I, 706.
 4. Ibid.; Bulletin Augustana College and Theological Seminary 1939-40, Series XXXIV, No. 1, p. 54. Hereafter referred to as Bulletin Augustana College.
 5. Bulletin Augustana College, p. 18,19.
 6. Ibid., p. 19,21.
 7. Ibid., p. 4.

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ing the spiritual and social instincts of the people,¹ they encouraged common school and higher education, and settlement in the western lands, and exercised a telling influence in the causes of law and order, anti-slavery, and temperance. John Mason Peck of the Baptist Church and Peter Cartwright the Methodist circuit rider, were two of the outstanding ministers in early Illinois whose influence penetrated to virtually all portions of the state, and whose vigorous labors made them well known in their day throughout the Northwest. Many of the early preachers were men of little learning and less polish, but to offset that they had the advantage of belonging to the people whose problems they understood and shared.²

The first religious services in the Rock Island region of which there is a record were held at Fort Armstrong in 1826 by the Reverend John Kinney,³ one of the many energetic trading ministers who went on horseback from settlement to settlement throughout the Northwest. Organized congregations began about 1833 when the Reverend Asa McMurtree, a Methodist minister, came to the county.⁴ The Methodists have now fifteen churches in Rock Island County with fifty-one hundred members.⁵ The Reverends John Montgomery and I. Pittsburg organized a Presbyterian church in the old Rock Island House in 1837;⁶ at

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1. "The life of the people of the early state found its most typical expression in their churches. They offered an immediate escape from the unending struggle with physical forces, a promise of future compensation for their privations that now pressed hard, and furnished a social center of varied and exciting interest." Theodore Calvin Pease, The Frontier State 1818-1848, Centennial History of Illinois, v. II, ed. Clarence W. Alvord (Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission, 1920), p. 410. Hereafter referred to as The Frontier State.
 2. "The preachers of the gospel sprang largely directly from the body of the people, without any previous training, except in religious exhortation and unguided study of the scriptures. In primitive times it was not considered necessary that a teacher of religion should be a scholar. The appeal was made to the heart and not the head . . . The congregation gathering in the wilderness were composed largely of unlearned men and women, and they were most easily touched by these preachers . . . nevertheless, much as we may find now to criticise in the methods then employed by the Methodist Circuit-rider, or the itinerant Baptist or Presbyterian, these early preachers of Illinois performed an important and necessary work." Randall Parrish, Historic Illinois (Chicago: A. C. McClurg and Co., 1919), p. 388-90.
 3. History of Rock Island County, I, 660.
 4. Past and Present, p. 167, 168.
 5. Journal and Year Book of the Illinois Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the Year 1938 (Decatur, Illinois, 1938), p. 640, 641.
 6. Past and Present, p. 171, 172.

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present there are eight Presbyterian churches in the county with 2,434 members.¹ The Baptists with the Reverend Titus Gilbert organized a congregation in the county in 1837; they now have seven churches with 1,785 members.² The Congregationalists came in the same year, and now have five churches with an aggregate of 1,683 members.³ Other denominations in Rock Island County and their present number of churches are the Disciples of Christ with five churches;⁴ the Roman Catholics with eleven;⁵ the Episcopal Church with two;⁶ and the Evangelical Lutherans, who, coming into the county in the 'fifties, have now nine churches belonging to the Augustana Synod, and five belonging to the Missouri Synod.⁷

Public Welfare

Prior to the acquisition of a county poor farm, the indigent of Rock Island County - generally the old and infirm - were cared for by private persons who were compensated from the county treasury. A typical picture of a person seeking aid from the county is contained in an insertion in a county record of March 8, 1836: "This day came into court Thomas L. J. Johnson, who stated he was blind, or nearly, as that he could see but very little. The court, after hearing proof examined the said Thomas L. J. Johnson, do place him upon the county as a pauper. It appearing to the Court that the said Thomas L. J. Johnson having resided the time fixed by law to gain residence in the said county. It is ordered that Robert Thompson be allowed Ten Dollars for four weeks boarding, nursing, and taking care of the said Thomas L. J. Johnson, a pauper. It is further ordered that the said Robert Thompson board, nurse and take care of the said Thomas L. J. Johnson a pauper until the next county commissioners' court at two dollars and twenty-five cents per week."⁸ Dr. I. Emerson, who was practicing at the fort on Rock Island, was retained by the county as physician to the needy.⁹

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1. Minutes of the Synod of Illinois of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. for 1938 (Champaign, Ill., 1938), p. 90.
 2. Past and Present, p. 168,169; Minutes of the Illinois Baptists, Rock Island Association for 1844, p. 1; Illinois Baptist Annual, 1938 (Chicago: Chicago Baptist Association, 1938), p. 114,115.
 3. The Frontier State, p. 419,420; The Year Book of the Congregational and Christian Churches (New York: General Council, 1938), p. 107,109.
 4. Yearbook, Disciples of Christ (Indianapolis: Yearbook Publication Committee, 1938), p. 359.
 5. "Diocese of Peoria," The Official Catholic Directory for the Year of Our Lord 1939 (United States edition; New York: P. J. Kenedy & Sons, 1939), p. 478-80.
 6. The Living Church Annual (New York and Milwaukee: Morehouse, Gorham and co., 1939), p. 332.
 7. Statistical Year Book, Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States, 1938, Central Illinois District, p. 41-44; Report, Eightieth Annual Convention, 1939, Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America (Rock Island: Augustana Book Concern, 1939), p. 382.
 8. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 129.
 9. Ibid., p. 121.

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In 1839, the task of finding homes for the poor was placed in the hands of overseers appointed by the court for the several districts in the county.¹ With the rapid rise of population, this system of care became too expensive and unwieldy. In 1853, the county purchased from the heirs of Rinnah Wells an eighty-acre tract of farm land near the city of Rock Island, with a two-story frame house and barn, for \$1,200.² The needy were removed to the farm and placed under the care of William Sanderson, the steward appointed by the court.³ Those of the inmates who were physically able, worked the land of the farm. That farm was sold and the present farm of over one hundred and eighty acres, situated near Coal Valley, was purchased in 1861 from J. Smith for \$3,000. The following year, buildings on the farm costing \$3,463 were completed, and William Bailey of Coal Valley was appointed superintendent.⁴ The name County Poor Farm was thoughtfully changed to Rock Island Infirmary in 1895.⁵

In 1870, a building costing \$5,000 was erected on the farm in which were housed the insane.⁶ The officials of Rock Island County made repeated efforts to interest the state in building a hospital, for the insane of that region, in Rock Island.⁷ At one time the county undertook to build such a hospital at its own expense on a lot donated in 1881 by P. L. Cable. But the undertaking failed to materialize because the funds on the authorized bond issue of \$20,000 were not raised in time.⁸ Finally, in 1895, Rock Island was selected for a new state hospital for the insane,⁹ and in 1903, buildings costing \$19,829.40 were completed.¹⁰

The Press

A few years after the organization of the county, with the growth of population, the quickening of political consciousness, and the growing importance of Stephenson as a river town and industrial center, came the publication of newspapers in Rock Island County. Henry C. McGrew, an immigrant from Ireland, started the first newspaper in 1839, called the Rock Island Banner and Stephenson Gazette; politically neutral in the first year, it became Democratic in 1840, expressing the political sentiments of Stephenson, although the county and locality were Whig.¹¹

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1. County Commissioners' Records, v. B, p. 92.
 2. Ibid., v. D, p. 68.
 3. History of Rock Island County, I, 645.
 4. Supervisors' Records, v. E, p. 39, 57, 80, 92, 118-20.
 5. Ibid., v. K, p. 373.
 6. Ibid., v. F, p. 291.
 7. Ibid., v. G, p. 184; v. H, p. 100.
 8. Ibid., v. H, p. 309-11, 483-85, 589.
 9. L. 1895, p. 9; Supervisors' Records, v. K, p. 358, 441, 442.
 10. Supervisors' Records, v. M, p. 354.
 11. History of Rock Island County, I, 734.

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The fact that the Banner was Democratic inspired the establishment of the Upper Mississippian in 1840 as an expression of the Whig sentiments in the county. The editors were Daniel Crist and John Powers. It was published weekly, simultaneously in Stephenson and Davenport, and soon attained a reputation as one of the most stimulating and important papers in northern Illinois. In 1844, under Henry C. Randall, publisher, the paper became Democratic in its policy. A Whig organ, the Northwestern Advertiser, was started the following year by Dr. Horatio P. Gotchell and Miles W. Conway, Jr. Later the name was changed to the Rock Island Advertiser, the Tri-Weekly Advertiser, and in 1855, to the Daily Advertiser.¹ As an organ of the antislavery movement, the Liberty Banner was started in 1846. In 1851, it was renamed the Republican; subsequently it became the Argus with Democratic party convictions. One of its best known editors was J. B. Dunforth, Jr. In 1854, he started the first daily paper in that section of the country, the Republican. Because of the advent of the Republican party he changed its name in 1855 to the Rock Island Argus.²

Between the fifties and seventies, the period of great industrial expansion, immigration, and national political crises, a number of other papers made their appearance in Rock Island County including two in the German language.³ At present there are nine weekly, one monthly, and two daily papers published in the county. One of the weeklies, the Gazette Van Moline, is published in the Flemish language with J. L. Van Luncher as editor; the Augustana, published in Swedish, is edited by Dr. L. G. Abrahamson. The publications in English are the Milan Independent, a weekly edited by O. D. Kendall; the Reynolds Press, a weekly edited and published by Guy V. Pettit; the East Moline Herald, a weekly edited by R. M. Harper; the Moline Dispatch, a daily edited by L. R. Blackman; the Port Byron Globe, a weekly edited and published by H. G. Sell and F. E. Mueller; the Rock Island Argus, a daily edited by John W. Potter; the Augustana Observer, a weekly edited and published by the students of Augustana College; the Lutheran Companion, a denominational weekly edited by Dr. E. E. Ryden; a monthly, the Modern Woodman edited by E. E. Wilson, and the Tri-City Labor Review, a labor paper edited by Charles A. Reagan.⁴

The Rock Island Arsenal

A considerable source of employment and income to the inhabitants of Rock Island County for many years, has been the Federal Arsenal, one

1. History of Rock Island County, I, 734-36.

2. Ibid., I, 736, 737.

3. Ibid., I, 737-39.

4. Directory of Newspapers and Periodicals, 1939, ed. J. Percy H. Johnson (Philadelphia, N. W. Ayer & Son), p. 223, 236, 237, 244, 245, 246.

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of the largest government-owned armament plants in the country, located on historic Rock Island. This island, used by Black Hawk and his braves as a summer resort has, since its acquisition by the government in 1804, played an important role in the history of the West and of the country in time of crisis. On it was built Fort Armstrong which, serving as a frontier defense, opened to settlers the northwestern region. During the Spanish-American War and the World War, the arsenal on Rock Island served a vital function as one of the main sources of armament supply for the nation's armed forces. In 1863, the island was made a military prison for the confinement of captured Confederate soldiers. Almost two thousand of them, who died from cholera and other causes, lie buried there.¹ At present (1939), with a war in Europe and an extensive program of armament decreed by Congress, the island, under command of Colonel Norman F. Ramsey, is once more humming with activity.

The movement for the establishment of an arsenal on Rock Island was begun as early as 1840, when a survey for that purpose was made under the direction of Colonel Talcott and Captain William Bell of the Ordnance Department. Captain Bell was favorably impressed by his findings. In his report he wrote, "The whole island, containing about 850 acres, belongs to the United States, having been especially reserved from sale. It lies at all times high and dry in the Mississippi, on the side of the Illinois shore, from which it is separated by about 600 or 700 feet; its greatest length, lying east and west, being about 2.61 miles and its greatest breadth lying north and south being 1,463 yards, . . . its circumference being $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles."² Among others strongly favoring Rock Island for the site of a western armory were Jefferson Davis, while Secretary of War, in 1854, Honorable A. C. Dodge, chairman of the Senate committee on public lands, and Quartermaster-General Jesup, who wrote in 1852, "The site of Fort Armstrong, Rock Island, is one of the most valuable in our Western Country for an Armory. The whole water power of the Mississippi is available. If a Western Armory is to be established, I would advise that it be placed there. I would not advise that any part of it be rented or leased."³

In 1861, citizens of Rock Island County petitioned Congress to establish the arsenal, and the Iowa legislature sent a resolution to Congress for the same purpose.⁴ The following year, by an act of Congress an appropriation of \$100,000 was made and in September, 1863, ground

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1. Past and Present, p. 141.
 2. B. F. Tillinghast, Rock Island Arsenal In Peace and In War (Rock Island: The Henry O. Shepard Company, 1898), p. 25.
 3. *Ibid.*, p. 28.
 4. Past and Present, p. 136.

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was broken for the government buildings at the lower end of the island.¹ After the decision by the government to utilize the island for a permanent armament manufacturing depot, it was found necessary to buy the interests of a number of private parties who held claims to property on the island. In 1866, Congress appropriated the necessary money to buy out the claims, for which a total of \$237,492.20 was paid.²

On February 1, 1867, the state legislature approved an act exempting the island and its properties from taxation, and ceded to the national government jurisdiction over the island of Rock Island and the small islands of Benham's, Wilson's, and Winnebago, contiguous thereto - retaining for the state, jurisdiction in cases of civil and criminal process only.³

During the World War as many as 13,263 workers were employed in the arsenal. In peace time the force is much smaller; in March, 1938, only 1,825 persons worked in the arsenal, although since then another 1,660 have been added.⁴

The Cities and Villages

Rock Island

The city of Rock Island, one of the cluster of four cities Moline, East Moline, Rock Island, and Davenport, lies on the Mississippi which forms its northern and western boundaries, Rock River flowing along its southern edge. The city, with a population in 1930 of 37,953,⁵ is an industrial center and a hub of interstate travel served by the main lines of three railroads, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy; and by branch lines of the Davenport, Rock Island and North Western, and the Rock Island Southern.

The city, which includes the old towns of Farnhamsburg and Stephenson, has had a colorful history passing through the stages of a pioneer settlement and river town, to become a modern American city and center

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1. Stephen V. Benet and D. W. Flagler, A History of The Rock Island Arsenal, From Its Establishment in 1863 to 1876, and of the Island Of Rock Island, the Site of The Arsenal From 1804 to 1863 (Washington: Ordnance Department, Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 97, 98. Hereafter referred to as History of Rock Island Arsenal.
 2. Ibid., p. 159.
 3. L.1867, p. 175.
 4. Chicago Daily News, September 19, 1939.
 5. Population Bulletin, p. 31.

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of industry. Rock Island was a river town up to the coming of the railroad in 1855. The brief but decisive struggle for supremacy between the ancient waterways transportation and the young but vigorous intruder, rail transportation, came to a dramatic climax in the famous controversy over the railroad bridge built across the Mississippi from Rock Island to Davenport. The piers of the bridge were so built in the river that they formed an obstruction to the boats. In 1856, the "Effie Alton," a boat belonging to a St. Louis Company struck the bridge and burned, losing its cargo. A sensational suit in the Federal Court at Chicago resulted, with Abraham Lincoln as counsel for the railroads.¹ The railroads won the contest and since then their supremacy over the river has never been seriously challenged.

Up to about 1855, the most important activity in Rock Island was steamboating. From 1855 to 1870, the town was developing, in line with the expansion of rail transportation, into an industrial city. It is now one of the chief centers in the state for the manufacture of agricultural implements. Some of the products of the city's leading industries are lumber, wagons, steel and iron products, footwear and clothing, food products, and hardware and plumbing specialties. In 1933, there were sixty manufacturing establishments in the city producing materials valued at \$9,276,817.²

Moline, the "Plow City"

Another important manufacturing center is Moline with a population in 1930 of 32,236,³ known throughout the United States from the middle of the last century as the "Plow City." When the town was first laid out it was removed by several miles from the city of Rock Island. Gradually the space between them was built up until at present the physical boundary separating the two cities is obliterated. The first settlers on the site of Moline were New Englanders, among whom were Michael C. Bartlett, and the large family of Joel Wells, who settled there in 1829.⁴ In 1841, John W. Spencer, Spencer H. White, David B. Sears, and George W. Lynde laid out a town on that site which they called Rock Island Mills.⁵ No developments followed until 1843 when the town was platted by some of the settlers. The county surveyor, P. H. Ogilvie, made the survey and suggested Hesperin and Moline for a choice of names of the

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1. Albert J. Beveridge, Abraham Lincoln (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1928), II, 301-8.
 2. Biennial Census of Manufacturers 1933, Illinois (Washington: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, typed), p. 4.
 3. Population Bulletin, p. 31.
 4. History of Rock Island County, I, 672.
 5. Ibid.

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town. He explained that Hesperin meant "star of the west" and Moline meant "mill town." Charles Atkinson chose the name Moline.¹ In 1855, Moline was incorporated as a town,² and in 1869 as a city.³

One of the factors which determined the establishment of Moline so close to the county seat, Rock Island, which was already a thriving town, was the immense supply of available natural waterpower, formed by the upper rapids of the Mississippi twenty miles above the town. The Rock River on the east and south of the city is another source of inexpensive water power. This water power was first utilized to run saw and grist mills. One of the first mills was built by Vandruff and Kalbaugh on Rock River about 1838; David B. Sears, John W. Spencer, Calvin Ainsworth, and Spencer H. White built in 1837 what is considered the first dam on the Mississippi River.⁴

While Moline was slowly developing as a mill town in the manner visioned by its founders, John Deere of Grand Detour, was becoming well known for his polished steel plow. Before the invention of the self-cleaning plow in 1837 by the blacksmith from Vermont, the farmers found the existing plows unsuited for use on the Illinois prairie. The sticky muck of the prairie clung to the blade of the old cast iron implement, making it necessary for the plowman to stop his team every few yards, pull out the plow from the furrow and clean it with a paddle which he carried for that purpose. The time and labor consumed by that extra process was so discouraging that few settlers dared to take up the challenge of the rich Illinois prairies.⁵

In 1837, John Deere fashioned a plow out of a discarded mill saw blade from which the earth fell away of itself; he called his plow the "self-polisher."⁶ Like the wheel, the horseshoe, the steel pen, and the match, the steel plow was a simple invention, but it has had a profound effect on the development of the West and was the immediate cause of the development of Moline. In 1846, John Deere produced about a thousand plows.⁷ His rapidly expanding business made it desirable to locate his shop at a place affording better means for distributing his product than he had at Grand Detour, as well as a location where coal was readily available. Moline met both these requirements, and in 1847 he removed his shop to that town. John Deere made a better plow and the world beat

1. History of Rock Island County, I, 672.

2. Private L.1855, p. 76.

3. History of Rock Island County, I, 552.

4. Ibid., I, 752,760.

5. Neil M. Clark, John Deere (Moline, Illinois; Desaulniers & Company), p. 8-10.

6. Ibid., p. 36,40.

7. Ibid., p. 44.

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a path to his factory door in Moline. Other business men were attracted by the facilities of Moline, so that by 1853 there were thirteen manufacturing establishments in the town producing, besides plows, shingles, buckets, barrel staves, sashes and doors, window blinds, chairs, and farm equipment. There were also several saw and grist mills and paper mills. In that year these industries employed 209 workers, the output totalling \$520,500. The population of Moline in 1853 was 1,400.¹

From the eighteen-fifties on, increased immigration into Illinois, expanding industry and agriculture, and the development of transportation were some of the additional factors in the rapid rise of Moline from a small mill town covering 78 acres to a city which, in 1911, occupied 3,506 acres.² At present, Moline is the chief manufacturing city in Rock Island County. Among its prominent manufacturing establishments are Deere and Company, and the Minneapolis-Moline Power Implement Company. Besides farm implements and tractors, Moline industries produce elevators, scales, furniture, automobiles, machinery, boilers, and a variety of other products. In 1933, the 51 manufacturing establishments in Moline manufactured products valued at \$7,707,559.³

East Moline

The youngest of the three industrial cities of Rock Island County, East Moline, lying a few miles east of the cities of Rock Island and Moline, was organized in 1902.⁴ It had the advantage from the beginning of being located on the Rock Island system, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, and the Davenport, Rock Island and North Western railways.⁵ The harvester department of Deere and Company was established there and the combine factory of the International Harvester Company. The city grew rapidly in population. In 1910 it was 2,665; in 1920, 8,675; in 1930, 10,107.⁶

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1. Rock Island and Its Surroundings in 1853, p. 20. The Chicago newspaperman who gave these data in articles which were later published in a booklet, put a note in one of them, the substance of which rings as strangely as its old-time wording. Concerning J. Waggoner, a chair manufacturer, he wrote: "By the way, Mr. W. will give liberal wages and constant employment to two chairmakers and one finisher. If there be any such out of employment who may read this article, they will know how to profit by it."
 2. History of Rock Island County, I, 672.
 3. Biennial Census of Manufacturers, p. 4.
 4. History of Rock Island County, I, 686.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Population Bulletin, p. 31.

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Silvis

Silvis was incorporated as a city in 1920.¹ The shops of the Rock Island system are located there, and many of its 2,650 inhabitants are employed in those shops.

The Villages

In addition to the cities, Rock Island County has nine villages scattered over its area: Milan, with a population in 1930 of 883; Coal Valley with 306; Carbon Cliff with 494; Hampton with 485; Rapids City with 199; Andalusia with 253; Cordova with 271; Reynolds in Rock Island County with 304 and in Mercer County 13; Port Byron with 587.² In the boom that swept the population of the county from 70,404 in 1910 to 98,191 - an increase of 39.46 percent - the villages, for the most part, did not share. Although the first five mentioned show an increase for the twenty-year period, their combined gain was less than half that of the smallest of the cities, Silvis.³ Likewise the back-to-the-farm movement incident to the increased demand for food products during the World War, although it swelled the rural population, left the villages relatively unaffected. Because of the narrowness of the county and its peculiar, almost crescent-like shape, none of its people are so far removed from the large cities that they need depend on small towns for their major trading; thus there is little incentive for the villages to develop into populous centers. Some of the towns date their establishment from the early years of the county's history; each serves a local rural hinterland, and each has its place in the economic and social fabric of the county.

Modern Rock Island County

In the one hundred and ten years' existence of Rock Island County its development has paralleled closely that of many other counties in the state and the Middle West. It is a typical American county, and its cities are typical American cities. On a reduced scale Rock Island County's history is essentially American history from the nineteenth century on.

The county's settlers, who in the early years were pioneers chiefly from the Northeastern states, have been increased by large bodies of immigrants from northern Europe, especially from Sweden. These immigrants, who sought new opportunities in the West because of political and economic persecution in their homelands, were strongly encouraged

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1. Population Bulletin, p. 31.
 2. Ibid.
 3. Ibid.

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by the railroads and steamship companies; during the eighteen-fifties several of the states maintained immigration agents and lecturers in Europe whose office was to entice prospective immigrants to their lands.¹ In the course of years, the differences which marked the newcomers to this country have largely disappeared under the impact of common experience in a young country. Writing about the Scandinavian element in the United States, Kendric Babcock, an author who has made an intelligently sympathetic, yet detached study of the subject, said about the Swedes that they are "hard working, persistent, often brilliant and capable of great energy and endurance. They fit readily into places among the best and most serviceable of the Nation's citizens; without long hammering or costly chiseling they give strength and stability, if not beauty and the delicate refinements of culture, to the social and economic structure of the United States."²

The changes in the problems of the farmers, which have taken place throughout the nation in the century past, have had their effect on Rock Island County. The farmlands which the pioneers bought from the government at from 75 cents to \$1.25 per acre were valued in 1930 at \$90.77 per acre.³ On the other hand, certain conditions faced by the modern farmer in Rock Island County were not known to his pioneer forbears. Fifty percent of the farms in the county were operated by tenants in 1930, and 42.9 percent of the owner-operated farms were mortgaged. The tax rate on land and buildings alone averaged, in 1929, \$1.40 per acre.⁴

In industry, too, there have occurred changes which are fundamental in their nature: the many small businesses owned and operated by individuals in early times have, in the course of years, been largely absorbed by corporate interests. According to the fourteenth United States Census of Manufacturers, the value of products of manufacturers in Rock Island County owned by individuals was 1.1 percent of the total, in 1919; owned by corporation, 98.5 percent. In that year there were 177 manufacturing establishments in the county with an output valued at \$86,735,641.⁵

That the changes in the character of ownership of industry had not reached its point of saturation in 1919, and that Rock Island County is

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1. Charles Kendric Babcock, The Scandinavian Element in the United States (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1914), III, 87,88.
 2. Ibid., p. 17,182.
 3. Farm, Home, and Community, p. 52.
 4. Ibid., p. 52,53.
 5. Fourteenth Census of the United States Manufacturers: 1919, Illinois (Washington: Department of Commerce, Government Printing Office, 1922), table 2, p. 5; table 14, p. 25.

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participating in a trend that is national in scope, is shown by the results of a survey made in 1938, published in the Chicago Daily News. "American 'big business' rounded out an unparalleled twenty-year period of expansion in 1938 Surviving even the economic lean years that followed the stock market collapse of 1929, the growth of the nation's commercial giants has gone forward steadily since the beginning of the post-war deflation in 1919. Today there are 26 financial and commercial enterprises in the United States with assets of more than \$100,000,000 each. On Dec. 31, 1938, their combined assets amounted to \$51,641,999,617. In 1919 there were only six corporations in the billion-dollar category and their assets totaled less than \$10,000,000,000. By the end of 1929 there were 20 'billionaires' with combined resources of more than \$40,000,000,000."¹

How the depression years have affected the wage earners is indicated by figures in the Department of Commerce Census of Manufacturers, taking Moline as a typical industrial city. The average number of wage earners in that city dropped from 5,499 in 1929, to 2,162 in 1933. In the same years, respectively, their combined wages dropped from \$7,920,899 to \$1,776,198.²

In 1933, the property of Rock Island County was assessed at \$69,407,000; the tax levy for the same year was \$3,292,900.³ In spite, however, of this great rise in wealth in the short history of the county, the problems faced by the officials of the county are as different in their way from what they were in the early years as the problems of the farmers, workers, and business men. In 1939, Rock Island County's share of the national debt was \$32,342,151.58, or 66 percent of its 1938 real estate value.⁴ In some of the counties in the state the share of the national debt is well above 100 percent of the real estate valuation.

In the field of education in the county the late years have shown a marked progress. High school graduates have increased from 516 in 1930, to 757 in 1934.⁵ Figures on the percentage of illiterates in the county in its early years are not available; in 1930, there was the low figure of 1.6 percent.

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1. Chicago Daily News, August 10, 1939.
 2. Biennial Census of Manufactures: 1933, Illinois (Washington: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1933, typed), p. 4.
 3. General Property Tax Levies, Collection and Delinquency By Counties, State of Illinois (Washington: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1933, mimeographed), p. 7.
 4. Chicago Daily News, August 4, 1939.
 5. Farm, Home, and Community, p. 61.

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Thus, in the comparatively brief space of one hundred and ten years, the civilization of Rock Island County has undergone a considerable evolution. The man with the ax and flintlock rifle, the agricultural man, whose chief adversaries were the forces of nature, had given way in three generations to the economic man, vitally affected by complicated social and economic forces less comprehensible than those of nature. From a simple pioneer whose life was bounded by his interest in agriculture and early American politics, he has become the critically aware individual of our day, intelligently participating in the complexities of our contemporary culture.

2. GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND RECORDS SYSTEM

Introduction

The county in Illinois is a corporate body¹ and an administrative unit of the state; its governmental organization is at all times largely an expression of this dual nature.

The growth of the county as a body politic is reflected, in each of the state's three constitutional periods, in a progressive expansion of the powers which may by law be exercised by the county board, and in the creation of new, and the extension of existing, county offices. The latter phase of growth in Rock Island County and in others similarly organized at present, has also been affected by the adoption of township organization, which for the first time constituted the civil towns as an additional level of government.

An analogous development appears in the state's invasion of new fields of government and the extension of the county's role as its agent. Originally, the county performed but a single important function for the state, that of collecting its share of the taxes levied within the county. Since then, however, education, public health, registration of vital statistics, public assistance, and many similar if less important matters have entered the province of state control or supervision. To affect this control, new governmental units, subcounty districts of various types, have come into existence or have been converted to new purposes; the county, because of its intermediate position, has become more important as a medium of that control.

Thus the complete operation of county government in Illinois brings into play a number of partly distinct authorities. Their relationships, at any time, are complex. The changing governmental organization of Rock Island County, therefore, is easiest traced from the viewpoint of the major functions of county government.

General Administration

General administrative jurisdiction over county business has always been vested in the county board. Under the first constitution, for all counties, the county commissioners' court acted as the county board.² It was expressly declared to have no original or appellate jurisdiction in

1. R.L.1827, p. 107; R.S.1845, p. 130; R.S.1874, p. 306.

2. Constitution of 1818 Schedule sec. 4; L.1819 p. 175 176.

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civil or criminal actions, but had all power necessary to the exercise of its jurisdiction in cases concerning the public affairs of the county collectively.¹ The commissioners were constitutional officers,² and elected;³ the court existed solely by statutory provision.⁴ Attached to it in a ministerial capacity was the independent statutory office of clerk of the county commissioners' court,⁵ at first filled at the appointment of the court,⁶ later by election.⁷

Under the second constitution, the newly created county court succeeded to the position of the county commissioners' court.⁸ As an administrative body,⁹ it was composed of the county judge, an elected, constitutional officer,¹⁰ and two justices of the peace, elected at large.¹¹ Another new office, that of clerk of the county court, was created to provide it with a ministerial officer; the clerk also was elected.¹²

The Constitution of 1848 also made provision, for the first time, for an optional form of county government.¹³ The subsequent enabling acts¹⁴ provided that whenever the voters of a county might so determine, that county should adopt township organization; one of the principal results of such a change was to alter the form of the county board.¹⁵ Rock Island County so elected in 1856, and in 1857 the county court was succeeded by a board of supervisors, composed of members elected, one in each of the several townships.¹⁶ The clerk of the county court was required by law to act as the ministerial officer of the new county board.¹⁷ In

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1. L.1819, p. 176.
 2. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4.
 3. L.1819, p. 99; L.1821, p. 80; R.L.1837, p. 103,104.
 4. L.1819, p. 175.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Ibid.
 7. R.L.1837, p. 49; L.1845, p. 28.
 8. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65.
 9. The county court was also a court of law. For its jurisdiction as such, see Administration of Justice, Courts, p. 46.
 10. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17.
 11. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65,66.
 12. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 63.
 13. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
 14. The original enabling act of 1849 (L.1849, p. 190-224) was repealed two years later by a more comprehensive but essentially similar law (L.1851, p. 35-78).
 15. Other effects of the change, within the sphere of county government proper, appear with regard to the taxation procedure. See Finances, p. 43.
 16. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1851, p. 38,50-52; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 5.
 17. L.1849, p. 203; L.1851, p. 52.

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1872, however, that clerk was replaced by a new officer, the county clerk, whose office had been created and made elective, by the third constitution,¹ and who was required by law to act as ministerial officer for the county board.² Another significant change in the form of the county board has been the addition to its membership of assistant supervisors, elected from the various towns on the basis of population;³ the assistant supervisors have no powers or duties as town officers, but are members of the county board and as such enjoy the same powers and rights as other members.⁴

The Constitution of 1870 also provided a new form of county board in counties not under township organization. This board was to be composed of three officers, styled commissioners, who would transact all county business as provided by law.⁵ Subsequent legislation granted to the board of county commissioners all powers and duties formerly exercised by the county court when acting in its administrative capacity.⁶ These laws were ineffective in Rock Island since this county has retained township organization since its adoption in 1856.

Concurrent with the changing organization of the county board is an expansion of its functions without, however, considerable extension beyond the original jurisdiction conferred upon the county commissioners' court. The authority of that body extended to the imposition and regulation of taxes,⁷ a limited but increasing management of county property,⁸ and a growing fiscal control, stringent in regard to tax collections,⁹ sporadic in its check on the expenditures of other county offices.¹⁰ The court additionally had power to appoint judges of election,¹¹ select juries,¹² and, with limitations, to provide for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.¹³ Poor relief¹⁴ and a tentative supervision of education¹⁵ also fell within its general administrative jurisdiction.

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 2. R.S.1874, p. 322.
 3. Ibid., p. 1080; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905-10; L.1933, p. 1115,1116.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 1080.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 6.
 6. L.1873-74, p. 79.
 7. L.1819, p. 175.
 8. Ibid., p. 237,238; L.1842-43, p. 128.
 9. L.1819, p. 238,318; L.1823, p. 208; R.L.1827, p. 373,375; R.L.1829, p. 121; L.1842-43, p. 112; L.1845, p. 11,12.
 10. R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1831, p. 175.
 11. L.1819, p. 90.
 12. Ibid., p. 255; L.1823, p. 182.
 13. Either by calling on the able-bodied men of the county for labor, or by raising bond issues by subscription (L.1819, p. 333,334,336,337,343; L.1821, p. 167; L.1825, p. 130-33).
 14. L.1819, p. 127; L.1839, p. 138,139.
 15. R.S.1845, p. 500,501.

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The effect of subsequent legislation, in the main, has only been to broaden that jurisdiction. The county board has been given full power to purchase, contract for, dispose of, and make regulations concerning all real and personal property of the county.¹ Until 1932 it was required to audit all claims against the county and the accounts of such offices as were not provided for by law.² Otherwise, the changes in form of the county board in Rock Island County have not materially affected the general administrative jurisdiction of that body.³

Finances

In Illinois counties, there has always been a close relationship between the taxation processes and fiscal control. This circumstance, as well as frequent evidence of the county board's ultimate control in such matters, appears in a resume of the legal status and duties of the officers involved.

Taxation

The assessment function in taxation was delegated by the first General Assembly to the county treasurer, a statutory officer appointed by the county commissioners' court.⁴ The administrative body, within statutory limits, fixed the amount of the levy, while the value of many categories of real and personal property was fixed by law; however, a limited discretion was left to the assessing officer.⁵ In 1825 assessments were made by the county assessor, also an appointee of the county commissioners' court.⁶ This duty reverted to the county treasurer in 1827⁷ and continued to be vested in that office until 1839, when the General Assembly provided for the appointment by the county commissioners' court of district assessors, not to exceed one in every justice's district.⁸ The earlier system was reestablished in 1844, with the treasurer, however, now having the status

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1. L.1849, p. 202; L.1851, p. 50,51; L.1861, p. 235,236; R.S.1874, p. 306, 307; L.1911, p. 245,246; L.1923, p. 304,305; L.1937, p. 453,454.
 2. L.1849, p. 202; L.1851, p. 51. In 1911 provision was made for the election of an auditor in counties with a population of seventy-five thousand or more. Rock Island County attained the population minimum in 1920, however, the office of auditor was not established until 1932.
 3. Cf. this running summary with R.S.1874, p. 306,307, and R.S.1937, p. 910-12.
 4. L.1819, p. 315.
 5. Ibid., p. 313,319; L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4-6; L.1840, p. 4; L.1845, p. 6.
 6. L.1825, p. 173.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 330.
 8. L.1839, p. 4.

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of ex-officio county assessor.¹ Since 1857, the date of the institution of township organization in Rock Island County, the assessment function has been performed on the lower governmental level by town assessors, elected one in each township.² Today, the principal duties of the assessing officers, taken together, are to bring up to date each year the periodic assessment of real property, to take current lists of, and appraise personal property and special categories of other property.³ The treasurer now has the status of ex-officio supervisor of assessments.⁴

Before the creation of a board of review, the functions which today fall within its scope were performed, in substance, by various officers. In the first constitutional period, it was left to interested individuals or parties to report property omitted from assessment; the county commissioners' court could hear appeals from assessments, but there was no provision for their equalization by districts.⁵ In 1849 it was provided that appeals were to be made to the county court.⁶ After the institution of township organization in 1857, town boards were empowered to review the assessments within their own jurisdiction, and the county board was required to meet annually to assess omitted property, review assessments upon complaint, and equalize valuations between towns.⁷ In 1898 this authority of the county board was transferred to the newly created board of review, composed of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman, the county clerk as ex-officio clerk, and an additional member appointed by the county judge.⁸ In 1923 the county clerk was replaced by another member appointed by the county judge;⁹ the board of review now appoints its own clerk.¹⁰

The collection function was originally performed in all counties by the sheriff, an elected constitutional officer.¹¹ Its nature has changed little since that time. Essentially, the collecting officer collects taxes according to information originating outside his jurisdiction, pays over such sums to authorities designated by statute to receive them, and reports

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1. L.1843, p. 231. Effective in 1844.
 2. L.1849, p. 192; L.1851, p. 38; L.1871-72, p. 20-24.
 3. L.1853, p. 16,17; L.1871-72, p. 11,14,15,19,23; L.1873, p. 51; L.1879, p. 241-45; L.1881, p. 133,134; L.1885, p. 234; L.1895, p. 300,301; L.1905, p. 360; L.1915, p. 568; L.1923, p. 495,500; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 69.
 4. L.1898, p. 36-44.
 5. L.1819, p. 316; R.L.1827, p. 330; L.1839, p. 7; L.1845, p. 8.
 6. L.1849, p. 65.
 7. L.1851, p. 56,57; L.1871-72, p. 21,22,24,25.
 8. L.1898, p. 46.
 9. L.1923, p. 496; L.1932, First Sp. Sess., p. 71,72.
 10. L.1923, p. 496,497.
 11. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; L.1819, p. 316.

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on payments of taxes and delinquencies.¹ In 1839, by a development analogous to that which occurred with regard to assessments, the county board extended its control to appoint a regular county collector.² Soon after, the law reverted to the earlier situation, with the sheriff acting as ex-officio collector.³ This situation continued until the institution of township organization when town collectors were elected, one in each township,⁴ and the county treasurer became ex-officio county collector.⁵ The town officers paid over their collections directly to the county officer, and supplied the basic information for the latter's summary report of collections in the county.⁶ In 1917 the town office of collector was abolished in counties the size of Rock Island, and the county collector became ex-officio town collector, assuming all duties previously assigned to the latter officer.⁷

Coordination of the taxation processes has always been effected by the county clerk or his predecessors. The assessment books are made out by the clerk, and returned to him by the assessor; similarly, the collector reports on collections on delinquent property; finally, the treasurer's receipts to the collector for taxes paid come into his possession, and the centralization of records concerning the basic taxation procedure is completed.⁸

Fiscal Control

The fiduciary function in county finances is performed by the county treasurer alone. The duties of the office have remained substantially the same since its creation; namely, to receive, principally from the collectors of taxes, the revenue of the county; to have custody of its funds; and to disburse funds only on specific authorization by law, or in accordance with the order of the county board.⁹ Through this last requirement, and that of

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1. L.1819, p. 316-18; L.1821, p. 182,183; R.L.1827, p. 332,333; R.L.1829, p. 121-23; L.1831, p. 125; R.L.1837, p. 581,582; L.1839, p. 7-12; L.1843, p. 234; L.1845, p. 11; L.1847, p. 81; L.1871-72, p. 55,57,58.
 2. L.1838-39, p. 7.
 3. L.1843, p. 234.
 4. L.1849, p. 192; L.1851, p. 38. Rock Island county electorate adopted township organization in 1856, but the change was not effective until 1857.
 5. L.1853, p. 67.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 41,56,57.
 7. L.1917, p. 793.
 8. L.1819, p. 317; R.L.1827, p. 373; R.L.1837, p. 582; L.1839, p. 8-12; L.1840, p. 3; L.1845, p. 9,11; L.1853, p. 71,111; L.1871-72, p. 32, 34,35,46,56-58; L.1873-74, p. 51; L.1911, p. 485; L.1917, p. 654; L.1919, p. 765; L.1931, p. 747.
 9. L.1819, p. 315,316; R.S.1845, p. 138; L.1861, p. 239; R.S.1874, p. 323, 324.

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the treasurer to report periodically to the board on the transactions of his office, in addition to his regular settlement with it, the lines of financial authority once more lead to the county board.¹

The office of county auditor, in counties under township organization of more than seventy-five thousand and less than three-hundred thousand inhabitants, was first created in 1911.² This officer was charged with such duties as auditing claims against the county, collecting information on the cost of maintenance of county institutions, and approving orders for supplies. Recommendations and reports were to be made to the county board. Rock Island County attained the population minimum in 1920. However, the office was not established until 1932.

Administration of Justice

Courts

Justice, in Illinois counties, has been administered by a constantly increasing number of bodies. The Constitution of 1818 vested the judicial powers of the state in a Supreme Court and such inferior courts as the General Assembly should ordain and establish; required the Supreme Court justices to hold circuit courts in the several counties; and provided for the appointment, in such manner and with such powers and duties as the General Assembly should direct, of a competent number of justices of the peace in each county.³

Federal statutes already allowed circuit courts, in all states, jurisdiction over the naturalization of aliens;⁴ the first state legislature additionally conferred jurisdiction over all causes at common law and chancery and over all cases of treason, felony, and other crimes and misdemeanors.⁵ The legislature further required that two terms of a circuit court be held in each county annually by one of the Supreme Court justices,⁶ but in 1824 provision was made for the holding of circuit courts by separate circuit court judges, to be appointed, as were the Supreme Court justices, by both branches of the General Assembly, and to hold office during good behavior.⁷

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1. L.1819, p. 318; R.L.1837, p. 582,583; L.1845, p. 33; R.S.1845, p. 138, 139; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 2. L.1911, p. 242,243.
 3. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 1,4,8.
 4. 2. U.S.S.L. 153-55.
 5. L.1819, p. 380.
 6. Ibid., p. 378.
 7. L.1824, p. 41. The Constitution of 1818, which had required that Supreme Court justices be appointed by the General Assembly, further provided that they should not, after the first session of the legislature subsequent to January 1, 1824, hold circuit courts unless required to do so by law (Art. IV, sec. 4).

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In 1827 the General Assembly repealed the 1824 law, and again provided for circuit courts to be held by Supreme Court justices.¹ At the next session of the legislature, when a new circuit was established, provision was made for the appointment of a circuit judge to act therein.² At that time, therefore, the circuit courts were held by Supreme Court justices in four judicial circuits and by a circuit judge in the fifth.³ A change was made again in 1835, when power to hold circuit courts was taken away from the Supreme Court justices and provision was made for the appointment of five circuit judges, in addition to the one already authorized, to hold circuit courts.⁴ The six judicial circuits existing at that time were supplemented during the next few years by the creation of new circuits,⁵ so that they numbered nine in 1841 when the office of circuit judge was again abolished and the Supreme Court justices, also increased to nine, were required to hold circuit courts.⁶

The authority of justices of the peace was limited by law to jurisdiction in specified civil cases and in misdemeanors, with appeals allowed from their judgments to the circuit court.⁷ The power of appointment, the legislature at first reserved to itself;⁸ in 1827, however, justices of the peace were required to be elected, two in each of such districts as should be determined within statutory limits by the county commissioners' court.⁹

Jurisdiction over probate matters was at the outset delegated to the county commissioners' court.¹⁰ By act of the next General Assembly, it was transferred to the court of probate,¹¹ consisting in each county of one judge appointed by the General Assembly.¹² As a result of the substitution in 1837 of probate justices of the peace for the judges of probate,¹³ juris-

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1. R.L.1827, p. 118,119.
 2. R.L.1829, p. 38.
 3. Ibid., p. 42,48.
 4. L.1835, p. 150.
 5. L.1837, p. 113; L.1838-39, p. 155.
 6. L.1841, p. 173.
 7. L.1819, p. 185,192,195.
 8. Ibid., p. 22.
 9. R.L.1827, p. 255,256. Since 1821, however, the county commissioners' court had been required to establish such districts, which also constituted general election precincts (L.1821, p. 74). For changes in the statutory limitations of this power of the court, see R.L.1827, p. 255, and R.L.1829, p. 93.
 10. L.1819, p. 223-33.
 11. L.1821, p. 121.
 12. Ibid., p. 119. The Constitution of 1818 (Art. IV, sec. 4) had also designated this manner of election for judges of all inferior courts.
 13. L.1837, p. 176,177.

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diction over probate matters for the first time was placed in the hands of elected officers.¹

The county court was the creation of the second constitution,² which also made circuit judges elected officers.³ With regard to the new court, it was further provided by law that it should be held in each county by a single elected officer, the county judge.⁴ Its authority was extended to jurisdiction in all probate matters, and to such jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases as might be conferred by the General Assembly.⁵ In pursuance of this latter provision, the county court was first given the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as justices of the peace;⁶ at the same session of the General Assembly, however, it was declared that county judges when exercising this jurisdiction, acted only in the capacity of justices of the peace.⁷ Until the next constitutional period, the county court, as such, was given jurisdiction only in a limited number of special actions;⁸ it was however, considered entitled to equal jurisdiction with the circuit court over naturalization.⁹ In this same period, provision was made for increasing, on the basis of population, the number of justices of the peace to be elected in each district. In Rock Island County, and others similarly organized, one additional justice of the peace is now elected for every one thousand inhabitants exceeding two thousand inhabitants in each town.¹⁰

Provision was first made by the Constitution of 1870 for the establishment by the General Assembly of an independent probate court in each county having a population of more than fifty thousand inhabitants.¹¹ As first established by statute, the new courts were to be formed in counties of one hundred thousand or more inhabitants.¹² This population requirement was lowered to seventy thousand in 1881.¹³ The population of Rock Island

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1. The Constitution of 1818 (Art. IV, sec. 8) had reserved to the General Assembly the right to prescribe the manner of appointment of justices of the peace.
 2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 1, 16.
 3. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 7, 15.
 4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17.
 5. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 18.
 6. L. 1849, p. 65.
 7. Ibid., Second Sess., p. 15.
 8. L. 1849, p. 65, 66; L. 1853, p. 103; L. 1861, p. 171, 172.
 9. 2 U.S.S.L. 155.
 10. L. 1854, p. 30. No more than five justices, however, may be elected from any town or election precinct.
 11. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20.
 12. L. 1877, p. 79, 80.
 13. L. 1881, p. 72. In 1933, the act of 1877 was further amended to make the establishment of an independent probate court mandatory in counties having a population of eighty-five thousand or more, and optional in counties having a population of between seventy thousand and eighty-five thousand (L. 1933, p. 458).

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County reached this figure in 1910, and a separate probate court was established in the county in the same year.¹ The county court, early in this period, was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in appeals from justices of the peace;² its original jurisdiction was extended to be equal with that of the circuit court in all that class of cases cognizable by justices of the peace³ and involving in controversy sums not exceeding \$500.⁴ In 1906, however, it lost its naturalization jurisdiction since it failed to meet the additional requirement of Federal legislation that it possess jurisdiction at law without limitation upon amounts in controversy.⁵ The present constitution, also, for the first time, directed the manner in which the General Assembly should establish judicial circuits, requiring that circuits be formed of contiguous counties and that they should not exceed in number one circuit for every one hundred thousand of population of the state.⁶ At present there are eighteen circuits in Illinois, and Rock Island County is attached to the fourteenth circuit.⁷

Clerks of Courts

The clerk of the circuit court under the Constitution of 1818, was to be appointed by a majority of the justices of that court.⁸ Since 1849, however, by provisions of the constitutions of 1848 and 1870, the office has been filled by election.⁹ The office of clerk of the county court, which was an independent elective office under the second constitution,¹⁰ is now filled in an ex-officio capacity by the county clerk¹¹ who is also required by constitutional provision to be elected.¹² The county commissioners' court, which for a brief period held jurisdiction over probate matters, had its own clerk who was at that time appointed by the court.¹³ Probate judges and justices of the peace who subsequently held probate jurisdiction, were required to act as their own clerks.¹⁴ With the transfer of probate jurisdiction to the county court, the clerk of the county

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80; L.1881, p. 72.
 2. R.S.1874, p. 340; L.1877, p. 77; L.1895, p. 212,223.
 3. The jurisdiction of justices has also been progressively increased during this period. See L.1871-72, p. 524; L.1895, p. 189,190; L.1917, p. 562,563; L.1929, p. 541,542.
 4. L.1871-72, p. 325.
 5. 34 U.S.S.L. 596.
 6. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.
 7. L.1933, p. 436.
 8. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6.
 9. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21,29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 10. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19.
 11. R.S.1874, p. 260.
 12. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 13. L.1819, p. 175.
 14. L.1821, p. 119,120; L.1837, p. 177,178.

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court was required to keep, separately, records of probate proceedings and business.¹ In Rock Island County since 1910, a clerk of the probate court has been elected by the county electorate at the same time and for the same term of office as the probate judge.² Justices of the peace have always been required to keep their records in person.³

Ministerial Officers

The principal ministerial officer of all courts of record in Illinois counties is the sheriff. The first constitution provided that the sheriff should be elected.⁴ Later, in 1827, statutory provision was made for the appointment of deputies by the principal officer;⁵ since 1870, the number of deputies that the sheriff may appoint is determined by rule of the circuit court.⁶ The ministerial duties of the sheriff have undergone little change in more than one hundred years. Essentially he is to attend, in person or by deputy, all courts of record in the county, obeying the orders and directions of the court, and to serve, execute, and return all writs, warrants, process, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.⁷

The coroner was originally given equal power with the sheriff as a ministerial officer of the courts.⁸ He was also required to serve all process in any suit in which the sheriff was an interested party⁹ and to perform all the duties of the sheriff when that office was vacant.¹⁰ The last two functions are still incumbent upon the coroner.¹¹

Justices of the peace are served similarly in a ministerial capacity by constables. Not until 1870 was the office of constable given constitutional recognition;¹² at its creation by the first General Assembly, the county commissioners' court was empowered to appoint one or more constables

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1. L.1849, p. 66.
 2. L.1877, p. 82.
 3. L.1819, p. 185-97 (no specific record-keeping requirement listed among general duties of justices), 326 (establishing fees to be paid justices for keeping records); R.L.1827, p. 260 (becomes definite provision for justices to keep own records); L.1895, p. 221,222.
 4. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11.
 5. R.L.1827, p. 373.
 6. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 7. L.1819, p. 111; R.S.1874, p. 990,991.
 8. L.1819, p. 111.
 9. L.1821, p. 20-33.
 10. R.L.1827, p. 372,373.
 11. R.S.1874, p. 282. Despite the absence from the present law of statutory provision for the coroner to serve process originally directed to him (R.S.1874, p. 281,282), the courts have held that he may so do, an emergency being presumed to exist without need for the process to recite reason for its issuance to the coroner (20 Ill. 185; 57 Ill. 268).
 12. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 21.

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in each township;¹ in 1827 it was provided that two constables should be elected in each justice of the peace district.² Since that date, subsequent legislation has grouped justices of the peace and constables in all provisions regarding their election.³ Constables, like sheriffs and coroners, have always been required to serve and execute all process legally directed to them;⁴ process issuing from a justice of the peace court, however, may be directed only to some constable of the same county.⁵

Prosecutions

The duty of the present state's attorney to prosecute and defend all actions, civil or criminal, involving the county, the people, or officers of the state or county,⁶ was incumbent originally upon the circuit attorney.⁷ In 1827 this officer was replaced by the state's attorney.⁸ Also in effect from an early date is the officer's other major duty, apart from the enforcement of law,⁹ of giving opinions on any questions of law relating to criminal or other matters in which the people of the county may be concerned.¹⁰

The offices of circuit attorney and early state's attorney, which existed solely by statutory provision,¹¹ were appointive by the Governor until 1835,¹² and thereafter by the General Assembly.¹³ The second constitution provided for an elected state's attorney;¹⁴ since each judicial circuit was an elective district for this purpose, the territorial jurisdiction of the new officer remained the same as that of the former officer.¹⁵ Not until the adoption of the present constitution was provision made for the election of a separate state's attorney in each county.¹⁶

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1. L.1819, p. 162.
 2. R.L.1827, p. 258.
 3. See Courts, p. 46.
 4. L.1819, p. 162,163; R.S.1874, p. 400.
 5. L.1819, p. 186; R.S.1845, p. 317; L.1871-72, p. 525; L.1895, p. 191, 193; L.1937, p. 900. Similarly, process issuing from courts of record is required to be directed to the sheriff or, under certain conditions noted (footnotes 8, 9 and 10, p. 50), to the coroner (R.S.1845, p. 413; L.1871-72, p. 338; L.1907, p. 444, 445; L.1933, p. 786; L.1937, p. 989).
 6. R.S.1874, p. 173,174.
 7. L.1819, p. 204; L.1825, p. 178,179.
 8. R.L.1827, p. 79,80.
 9. See Enforcement of Law, p. 52.
 10. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 174.
 11. L.1819, p. 204-6.
 12. Ibid., p. 204.
 13. L.1835, p. 44.
 14. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21. The new title, however, had already come into occasional use in the interim (R.L.1827, p. 79,80; L.1835, p. 44; L.1847, p. 18,19).
 15. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 28.
 16. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.

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Inquests

The holding of inquests, one of the duties of the coroner in Illinois counties, is also a part of the administration of justice. The office of coroner was created by the first constitution and required to be filled by election;¹ the statutory provisions concerning the inquest function have not changed substantially since their enactment by the second General Assembly.² The coroner, when informed of the body of any person being found dead, supposedly by violence, casualty, or undue means, is required to summon a jury to inquire how, in what manner, and by whom or what, death was caused; testimony of witnesses is taken; witnesses whose evidence implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the deceased are bound over to the circuit court; the verdict of the jury is returned to the clerk of that court.³

The verdict of the coroner's jury, however, is not generally admissible in evidence;⁴ additionally, it is not held to be prima facie proof of matters stated therein with regard to the cause and manner of death;⁵ its essential nature, therefore, is that of a finding of facts upon the basis of which the coroner may be led to discharge his collateral duty to apprehend and commit to jail any person implicated by the inquest as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.⁶ To this extent, the coroner's inquest duties overlap his function as an officer for the enforcement of law.

Enforcement of Law

Sheriffs, coroners, and constables have always been charged equally with keeping the peace and apprehending all offenders against the law.⁷ The state's attorney's powers as an officer for the enforcement of law originally derive by implication from another duty;⁸ the gathering of evidence and the apprehension of offenders is necessarily involved in commencing and prosecuting actions in which the people of the state or county are concerned.⁹ In relatively recent years, however, the state's attorney has been given more specific statutory powers to enforce laws

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11.
 2. Cf. L.1821, p. 22-24; R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; R.S.1937, p. 780-82.
 3. L.1821, p. 24,25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 284; L.1879, p. 82; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 403,404; L.1931, p. 388,389.
 4. 46 N.W. 872. It is, however, held to be proper practice to offer, in cross-examining witnesses sought to be impeached, excerpts from transcripts of testimony taken at the inquest (189 Ill. App. 556; 211 Ill. App. 474).
 5. 201 Ill. App. 287.
 6. L.1821, p. 25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 283,284.
 7. L.1819, p. 111,162,163; R.S.1845, p. 515; R.S.1874, p. 400.
 8. See Prosecutions, p. 51.
 9. L.1819, p. 204; R.S.1845, p. 76.

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and to investigate violations and secure necessary evidence thereof.¹ But at any time the effective spheres of authority of law enforcement officers have been determined less by statutory provisions than by local conditions and individual circumstances.

Education

The act of Congress providing for the creation and admission of the State of Illinois to the Union set aside section sixteen of every township for the use of schools.² The first state legislation on the subject was concerned only with the establishment of school districts and the sale or leasing of school land to provide necessary funds, for which purposes three trustees of school lands were appointed in each township by the county commissioners' court.³

In 1825, however, with a common school system in operation, provision was made for its educational as well as financial administration. Three elected officers, known as township school trustees, were charged in each township with superintending schools, examining and employing teachers, leasing all land belonging to the district, and reporting annually to the county commissioners' court; this report, however, was limited to such matters as were concerned in the financial administration of the schools.⁴ In 1827 the county commissioners' court was again empowered to appoint trustees of school lands, but despite the use of the earlier, more limited title, these officers were charged with all the duties of the former township school trustees.⁵ The creation of office of county school commissioner in 1829 brought a new element into the complex situation. The commissioner was at first given limited duties with regard to the sale of school lands and the management of school funds;⁶ his subsequent gains in this respect at the expense of the township trustees foreshadowed the demarcation of spheres of authority that was made in 1847.⁷ In the interim, the school commissioner, who had first been appointed by the county commissioners' court,⁸ became an elected officer;⁹ in such townships as elected to incorporate for the purpose of organizing and supporting schools, township trustees also became elected officers and were there denominated trustees of schools.¹⁰

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1. L.1885, p. 3; L.1907, p. 268; L.1913, p. 395; L.1915, p. 368; L.1927, p. 33.
 2. 3 U.S.S.L. 428.
 3. L.1819, p. 107,108.
 4. L.1825, p. 121,122.
 5. R.L.1827, p. 366-70.
 6. R.L.1829, p. 150-54.
 7. Cf. L.1831, p. 176; L.1841, p. 275-79.
 8. R.L.1829, p. 150.
 9. L.1841, p. 261,262.
 10. Ibid., p. 273,274. In unincorporated townships, trustees continued to be appointed by the county commissioners' court (ibid., p. 259,260).

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The situation created by the legislation of 1847 in certain respects has not since been substantially altered. In all counties, township trustees became, and are still, elected officers, styled township school trustees.¹ The relative authority of the officer of the county² and of officers of the township with regard to financial administration was fixed essentially as at present.³ Moreover, township trustees lost practically all their former duties with regard to matters purely educational as a result of a development that occurred in 1845.

It was at that time that the county first entered into the actual administration of education with the creation of the office of superintendent of schools.⁴ Filled at first by the school commissioner in an ex-officio capacity,⁵ it quickly absorbed most of the functions of township trustees with regard to the advancement of education;⁶ later, the office came to be filled by election⁷ and completely absorbed that of school commissioner.⁸ In the new field of county administration of education, the superintendent's duties remained constant through his change in legal status, requiring him to visit all the townships in his county and inquire into the condition and manner of conducting their schools, to examine persons proposing to teach school, to grant certificates to persons qualified to teach in schools, and to report to the county board on all his acts relating to the management of school funds and lands.⁹ Subsequent legislation has enlarged the scope of this phase of the superintendent's functions, but it is in his role as an agent of state supervision that he has been charged with numerous duties of a new character.¹⁰

The authority of the state with regard to education, first manifested in 1845, has, like that of the county, been extended beyond its original bounds. Originally the county superintendent was required only to communi-

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1. L.1847, p. 126; L.1909, p. 350.
 2. The subsequent substitution of an independent elected superintendent of schools for the school commissioner who had additionally been ex-officio superintendent (see footnotes 5, 6, and 7), was only a change in the legal status of the officer of the county and had no further import.
 3. L.1847, p. 123, 124, 128, 129; L.1909, p. 351-54; L.1927, p. 794, 795.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 498.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Ibid., p. 497-503. Cf. L.1825, p. 121, 122; R.L.1827, p. 366-70; L.1831, p. 173; L.1841, p. 270, 275, 276, 279. The only duty of this category that was left to township trustees in the laws of 1847 concerned the examination of prospective teachers and the issuance of certificates where merited (L.1847, p. 130).
 7. L.1865, p. 112.
 8. Ibid., p. 112, 113.
 9. R.S.1845, p. 498-501. Cf. L.1847, p. 121-25; L.1857, p. 261-65, 278, 279, 296, 297; L.1861, p. 190, 191; L.1865, p. 114, 119-21.
 10. L.1909, p. 347-50; L.1915, p. 636-38.

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cate to the State Superintendent of Common Schools¹ information concerning the schools in his county.² Today, as a consequence of the state's increasing intervention in matters of public health and safety, the county superintendent is required to inspect, with regard to specifications, plans submitted to him for the heating, ventilation, lighting, etc., of public school rooms and buildings; to visit and notice such public school buildings which appear to him to be unsafe, insanitary, or otherwise unfit for occupancy; and to request the Department of Public Health,³ the state fire marshal, or the state architect to inspect such buildings and issue reports upon which condemnation proceedings can be based.⁴

Recordation

For the function of making legal record of written instruments, the first General Assembly established the office of recorder.⁵ Originally appointed by the Governor,⁶ the recorder was required to be elected after 1835.⁷ The second constitution made the clerk of the circuit court⁸ ex-officio recorder in all counties;⁹ the present constitution continued the earlier provision in counties of under sixty thousand population and provided for the election of a recorder in counties of that population or more.¹⁰ Rock Island County met the population requirement in 1910, and a recorder was elected in 1912.

The basic duty of the recorder, to record at length and in the order of their receipt all instruments in writing, has remained essentially unchanged; legislation has been directed toward the extension of categories of instruments entitled to be recorded.¹¹ Conveyances of title to land, a major category of such records, frequently involve another county officer, the surveyor. Established by the second General Assembly, the office of

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1. The Secretary of State in ex-officio capacity (L.1845, p. 52). In 1854 the office became independent, filled by election, and known as that of Superintendent of Public Instruction (L.1854, p. 13), which is its present status (L.1909, p. 343).
 2. L.1845, p. 54.
 3. Prior to 1917, the rights, powers, and duties of this department were vested in the State Board of Health, abolished in that year (L.1917, p. 4,17,27,28).
 4. L.1915, p. 637-40.
 5. L.1819, p. 18-20.
 6. Ibid., p. 19.
 7. L.1835, p. 166.
 8. An elected officer; see Clerks of Courts, p. 49.
 9. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 64.
 10. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 833.
 11. L.1819, p.18-20; R.L.1829, p. 117,118; R.L.1833, p. 511; R.S.1845, p. 305,431,432,606; L.1851, p. 80; L.1859, p. 124; L.1869, p. 2; R.S.1874, p. 833, 834; L.1921, p. 756,757; L.1925, p. 520-22.

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surveyor was at first filled by appointment by that body,¹ later by election.² In 1936 the surveyor again became an appointed officer, with the power of appointment delegated to the county board.³ His duty to perform all surveys he may be called on to make within his county has undergone only minor change, but its importance has declined; the acts of any surveyor, properly acknowledged and certified, have equal standing before the law with those of the county surveyor; no maps or plats have any legal effect unless recorded by the recorder.⁴

Public Works

Roads and Bridges

Public roads and bridges were first under the superintendence of the county commissioners' court which was authorized to locate new roads and alter or vacate existing roads.⁵ The act providing for such superintendence empowered the commissioners to appoint freeholders in each township to act as supervisors, each appointment to be for a one-year period. New roads were to be opened by the county commissioners' court upon petition of residents of the county and a favorable report from the road viewers and surveyor. A few years later the county commissioners were authorized to divide the county into road districts and to appoint annually one supervisor to serve in each district.⁶ With a change in the county administrative body under the second constitution, the county court was granted supervision and control over public roads,⁷ but the care and superintendence of roads and bridges in counties electing the township form of government were granted to the commissioners of highways, elected annually in each town.⁸ The commissioners divided the town into road districts, and overseers of highways in each district were to repair the roads and carry out orders of the commissioners. In counties not electing the township form, the system of road districts was continued.⁹ The supervision, control and maintenance of roads, highways and bridges in Rock Island County were vested in the county court and the road district supervisors from 1849 to 1857, when township organization was instituted in this county.¹⁰ In 1913 the State Highway Department was established,

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1. L.1821, p. 62.
 2. L.1835, p. 166.
 3. L.1933, p. 1104. Provision effective in 1936.
 4. R.L.1829, p. 173; R.L.1833, p. 511; L.1845, p. 201; L.1869, p. 241,242; R.S.1874, p. 1050,1051; L.1901, p. 307,308; L.1915, p. 575.
 5. L.1819, p. 333.
 6. L.1825, p. 130.
 7. L.1849, p. 65; L.1851, p. 179.
 8. L.1849, p. 212.
 9. L.1847, p. 111-13; L.1849, p. 65,212,213; L.1851, p. 64,179.
 10. Rock Island County adopted township organization in 1856, but which was not effective until 1857.

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and provision was made for the appointment by the county board of a county superintendent of highways.¹ The entire system was centralized by subjecting the county superintendent to the rules and regulations of the state highway commissioner and by requiring candidates for county superintendent to be approved by the state commissioner before appointment by the county board. The term of office of the county superintendent was set at six years, and his salary was to be fixed by the county board. A board of highway commissioners was set up in each township to superintend matters relating to roads and bridges. Although the county superintendent was to act on behalf of the county in regard to roads and bridges, and although he was subject to removal by the county board, he was regarded as a deputy of the state highway engineer, subject to his directions. This indicates the intention of the legislature to unify the entire state system of roads and bridges. In 1917 the Department of Public Works and Buildings assumed the rights, powers, and duties vested in the State Highway Department,² but the county organization has remained essentially the same since 1913.

Public Buildings

The county is given the power to hold, own, and convey real estate for county purposes.³ This power is exercised by the county board which is charged with the care and custody of all the real and personal property owned by the county. Throughout the period of statehood it has been provided that a courthouse and jail be erected in each county,⁴ and that the sheriff of each county be charged with custody of such buildings.⁵ The county is further empowered to erect buildings for a county hospital, workhouse, tuberculosis sanitarium, and other county needs.⁶

The county superintendent of schools is charged with the inspection of plans and specifications for public school rooms and buildings; and the approval of only those which comply with the specifications prepared by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.⁷ He is also to request the Department of Public Health,⁸ the state fire marshal, or the state architect to inspect public school buildings which appear to be unsafe, insanitary, or unfit for occupancy. Upon receipt of an unfavorable report from these officials, the county superintendent is to condemn the

1. L.1913, p. 521-25, 537-46.

2. Ibid., p. 524, 525, 538, 542-44; L.1917, p. 24; L.1921, p. 780-86; L.1933, p. 961.

3. R.S.1874, p. 306.

4. L.1819, p. 237, 238; R.S.1845, p. 135; R.S.1874, p. 307, 308.

5. R.L.1827, p. 246, 247, 372; R.S.1874, p. 990.

6. R.S.1874, p. 307; L.1909, p. 163; L.1911, p. 246.

7. L.1915, p. 637-40.

8. Created in 1917 to supplant the State Board of Health abolished in that year (L.1917, p. 4, 17, 27).

Governmental Organization
and Records System

building and notify the board of directors or board of education, and the board of school trustees.

Drainage

In 1850 an act of Congress provided for the granting of swamp and overflowed lands to various states.¹ The land so granted to Illinois was turned over to the counties in 1852 to be reclaimed by drainage and used for county purposes.² Such lands were to be under the care and superintendence of the county court which was to appoint a "Drainage Commissioner" to conduct the sales of such lands. The county surveyor was to prepare plats of the swamp lands and return such plats to the clerk of the county court, whereupon the court fixed the valuation upon each tract. The purchasers of these tracts were given a certificate by the drainage commissioner, and a deed was later executed by the county court. The court was to sell only enough swamp lands to insure reclamation of all such land, any balance to be granted to the several townships to be used for educational purposes. At the discretion of the county, such balance could also be used for the construction of roads or bridges, or for other public works.

In 1865 the commissioners of highways in each town became ex-officio boards of drainage commissioners.³ Where a proposed drain ran through more than one town the commissioners of all the towns affected made up the board of drainage commissioners.⁴ In 1879 drainage construction by special assessment was handled by the drainage commissioners, a body corporate and politic composed of commissioners of highways.⁵

Provision was first made for the organization of drainage districts for agricultural, sanitary, and mining purposes in 1879. Petitions were to be filed with the county clerk and hearings on the same were to be had before the county court. When the court found in favor of the petitioners, it appointed three disinterested persons as commissioners to lay out and construct the work. Petitions for the construction of drains to cost less than \$5,000 were to be presented to justices of the peace, if the petitioners so elected, and the commissioners of highways were to perform the duties of drainage commissioners in such cases.⁶ In 1885 this law was amended to include drains costing less than \$2,000 and provided for the appointment of three residents as commissioners.⁷

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1. 9 U.S.S.L. 519.
 2. L.1852, p. 178.
 3. L.1865, p. 50.
 4. L.1867, p. 91,92.
 5. L.1879, p. 142.
 6. Ibid., p. 120.
 7. L.1885, p. 130,131.

Governmental Organization
and Records System

Public Services

Public Health

The State Department of Public Health, created in 1917,¹ is charged with general supervision of the health and lives of the people of the state. In conformance with this legislative order it is empowered to supervise, aid, direct, and assist local health authorities or agencies in the administration of the health laws. Public health districts may be organized along subcounty lines with a board of health in each. The names of such districts are to be filed with the county clerk to complete their organization. Annually, each board of health certifies to the county clerk the rate of a public health tax to be levied in each district, the clerk being responsible for setting out the proper taxes upon the warrant books and transmitting them to the collector as provided for in regard to other taxes.²

Control of the state health department over lodging houses, boarding houses, taverns, inns, and hotels is effected through the county clerk, the proprietors of such establishments being required to file with the clerk an annual statement containing details as to sleeping accommodations for guests.³ The clerk is also required to report annually to the state health department the names and addresses of township officials.⁴

Mosquito abatement districts are organized upon petition to the county judge of the county in which such territory lies, such petitions being filed with the county clerk. If, after hearing, the county judge determines that the organization of a district is necessary, the question is submitted to the residents of the territory at a special election. The judges of election make return to the county judge, and the results are entered upon the records of the county court. A majority of the votes favoring it, a mosquito abatement district is thereupon organized.⁵

County officials also enter into the state's control of public swimming pools. When a representative of the State Department of Public Health finds conditions that warrant the closing of such a pool, the owner of the pool and the sheriff and state's attorney of the county are notified to that effect, it being the duty of these officers to enforce such notices.⁶

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1. L.1917, p. 4.
 2. Ibid., p. 27,28,763,765,767,768.
 3. L.1901, p. 305.
 4. L.1923, p. 480.
 5. L.1927, p. 694.
 6. L.1931, p. 735,736.

Governmental Organization
and Records System

Vital Statistics

The State Department of Public Health has charge of the registration of births, stillbirths, and deaths throughout the state.¹ To effect proper control of this matter the state is divided into vital statistics registration districts which, in Rock Island County, are identical with the townships. The township clerk acts as the local registrar in these districts and receives certificates of births and deaths occurring in the district. Burial permits are issued by the registrar and are later returned to him for filing.

The local registrar is required to deposit monthly with the county clerk a complete set of records of births, stillbirths, and deaths registered during the month, and the clerk is charged with binding and indexing, or recording, and safekeeping of such records. The original certificates are sent monthly by the local registrars to the state health department which certifies annually to the county clerk the number of births, stillbirths, and deaths registered in the county.

The county board is to appropriate money for the payment of the local registrars' fees. Such amounts are charges against the county, and the county clerk is required to issue warrants on the county treasurer for the amount of the fees payable to the registrars.

The county also enters into the enforcement phase of this matter. The state health department reports cases of violations of any provisions of the act relating to registration to the state's attorney who is to initiate and follow up court proceedings against violators.

Public Assistance

Public assistance is administered through the services of the county department of public welfare, the county home, the blind examiner, the probation officers, the county clerk, and the county board.

The county department of public welfare is headed by a superintendent appointed by the county board after approval by the State Department of Public Welfare.² He assists the state department in the operation of welfare plans and policies within the county and has charge of the administration of old age assistance.³ In this latter regard the county department acts merely as the agent of the state department, investigation applicants and reporting results.

1. L.1915, p. 660-70.

2. L.1937, p. 451,452.

3. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54-61,72; L.1937, p. 265-70,452.

The county home is an establishment for the maintenance and care of indigents. Its management and finances are provided by the county board.¹ Blind assistance is administered in the county through appropriations by the county board together with state funds. An examiner of the blind, appointed by the county board, examines all applicants referred to him by the county clerk.² The county court has jurisdiction in the administration of the mothers' pension fund. A probation officer, an appointee of the court for this purpose, investigates and visits cases of indigent mothers who are entitled to benefit.³

Coordination of Functions

From the foregoing discussion of functions of the county government it is apparent that the county plays a dual role, that of a body politic and that of an agent of the state. In its first capacity the county, through its officials, is capable of suing and being sued, purchasing, holding, and selling property, making contracts, and raising revenue for its proper operation. As a state agent it fits into a state-wide program on various matters of public concern, acting under the supervision and control of the state and coordinating the activities of subcounty agencies and officials.

Coordination of county activities is effected chiefly through the county clerk. An illustration of this is the part this official plays in the election procedure. He notifies the judges and clerks of elections of their appointment, supplies them with blanks and poll books, receives copies of registers of voters, issues notices of election, receives and preserves returns, canvasses votes with the assistance of two justices of the peace and retains the abstracts, transmits copies of election returns and abstracts of votes to the Secretary of State, and issues certificates of election.

Records System

County records in the State of Illinois have suffered from the lack of an adequate program of legislation designed to secure uniformity in recordation and to insure the proper care of those documents which have permanent value. However, from the inception of statehood, some effort has been made to coordinate the records systems of the several counties and to preserve their archives.

1. L.1936, p. 1057.

2. L.1903, p. 138; L.1915, p. 256,257; L.1935, p. 264,265.

3. L.1913, p. 127-30; L.1915, p. 243-45; L.1921, p. 162-64; L.1935, p. 256-59.

Governmental Organization
and Records System

In attempting to establish state-wide uniformity among counties, the General Assembly has at times provided detailed descriptions of required records and in many instances has supplied the very forms to be used. Laws relating to the duties and powers of county officers usually contained some such provisions. Thus, in 1819, the recorder of the county was ordered to supply "parchment or good large books, of royal or other large paper, well bound and covered" wherein to record all deeds and conveyances brought to him for that purpose. He was also to keep a fair book in which to enter every deed or writing to be recorded, noting the date, the parties, and the place where the lands were situated, such entries to be made according to priority of time.¹ In 1833 he was required to keep an alphabetical index to each book,² and by 1874 the General Assembly had prescribed a complete list of books to be kept in the office of the recorder, with a description of the contents of each, which list has been continued, substantially unchanged, to the present.³

In like manner, legislation was enacted prescribing records to be kept by the county clerk and his predecessors, acting in their several capacities,⁴ the clerk of the circuit court,⁵ the judge⁶ and justice⁷ of the probate court, the coroner,⁸ the county superintendent of schools,⁹ the county surveyor,¹⁰ and the county treasurer.¹¹

Description of records and forms to be used are frequently found in legislation pertaining to the holding of elections,¹² assessments and the collection of revenue,¹³ the organization and maintenance of common schools,¹⁴

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1. L.1819, p. 18,20.
 2. R.L.1833, p. 511.
 3. R.S.1874, p. 834.
 4. L.1849, p. 66,203; L.1859, p. 92,94; L.1865, p. 93; R.S.1874, p. 261-65,332; L.1933, p. 293-95.
 5. R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147; L.1847, p. 70; L.1849, p. 9; L.1865, p. 93; R.S.1874, p. 262,263; L.1933, p. 293,294.
 6. R.L.1829, p. 231.
 7. R.S.1845, p. 427,428.
 8. R.L.1833, p. 574; L.1869, p. 104,105; R.S.1874, p. 283.
 9. L.1849, p. 155,156; L.1865, p. 120; L.1909, p. 346,348,349.
 10. R.L.1829, p. 173; R.S.1845, p. 524.
 11. R.S.1845, p. 138; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 12. L.1819, p. 92,94; R.L.1827, p. 291,292; R.L.1829, p. 59,60; L.1845, p. 41,42; L.1849, p. 73,74; L.1865, p. 54,55; L.1871-72, p. 386-89, 391; L.1885, p. 143,148,173,176; L.1937, p. 522-29, 531-48.
 13. R.L.1827, p. 329-33; L.1838-39, p. 4,5,7,8,12,13,17; L.1845, p. 6-9, 12,14,15; L.1849, p. 37,38,124-26; L.1851, p. 53,55,56; L.1853, p. 17,24,50,55,77,78,111,112; L.1871-72, p. 19,23,32,48,49,54.
 14. L.1825, p. 127; R.L.1833, p. 563; L.1841, p. 263,270-72; L.1845, p. 53,54,65-68; L.1847, p. 121-23, 142-44; R.S.1874, p. 950,957,958, 964.

Governmental Organization
and Records System

the registration of marriages,¹ and the recording of vital statistics.²

While there has been enacted much legislation prescribing the kind of records to be kept, only a few laws deal with the safeguarding and preservation of county archives. In 1819 the General Assembly directed the clerks of the circuit and county commissioners' courts to provide "a safe press or presses with locks and keys for the safe-keeping of the archives of their offices . . ."³ In 1843 the county commissioners' courts were authorized, and required whenever the finances of the county would justify the expenditure, to erect a fireproof recorder's office at the county seat, or if the commissioners were of the opinion that any unappropriated room in their courthouses could be made fireproof, to make it so and house the office and records of the recorder there. At the discretion of the county commissioners' court, the provisions of this act might be deemed to apply to the offices of the clerks of the circuit and county commissioners' courts.⁴ Similar in content but slightly different in wording is a later enactment in which the county commissioners' courts were authorized to "erect, build, and provide permanent fireproof rooms, houses or vaults, for the purpose of placing therein and preserving from injury, damage, loss, or destruction by fire, the records and documents of their respective counties."⁵ The preservation of county archives has been greatly aided by an act to provide for the copying of old, worn-out records,⁶ and by a law authorizing the transfer of county records having historic value to the Illinois State Historical Library or to the State University Library at Urbana.⁷ Provision is made in this act for the substitution of accurate copies of these documents if such action be deemed necessary. In 1907 the act was amended to include among the institutions to which old records might be sent, any historical society incorporated and located within a particular county.⁸ Laws have also been enacted which provide for the restoration of certain classes of records destroyed by fire or other means.⁹ In 1935 the General Assembly appropriated money for the construction of a fireproof building at Springfield for the purpose of storing therein the archives and records of the state.¹⁰ The erection of this structure, the State Archives Building, has helped to make possible the inauguration of an intelligent, farsighted program for the preservation of papers and documents of historic value.

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1. L.1819, p. 27; R.L.1827, p. 288,289; R.S.1874, p. 694,695.
 2. L.1842-43, p. 210-12; L.1877, p. 209; L.1901, p. 301-4; L.1903, p. 315-18; L.1915, p. 666,667.
 3. L.1819, p. 332.
 4. L.1842-43, p. 210.
 5. L.1845, p. 46.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 648,649.
 7. L.1897, p. 205.
 8. L.1907, p. 375.
 9. L.1871-72, p. 649,650,652.
 10. L.1935, p. 138.

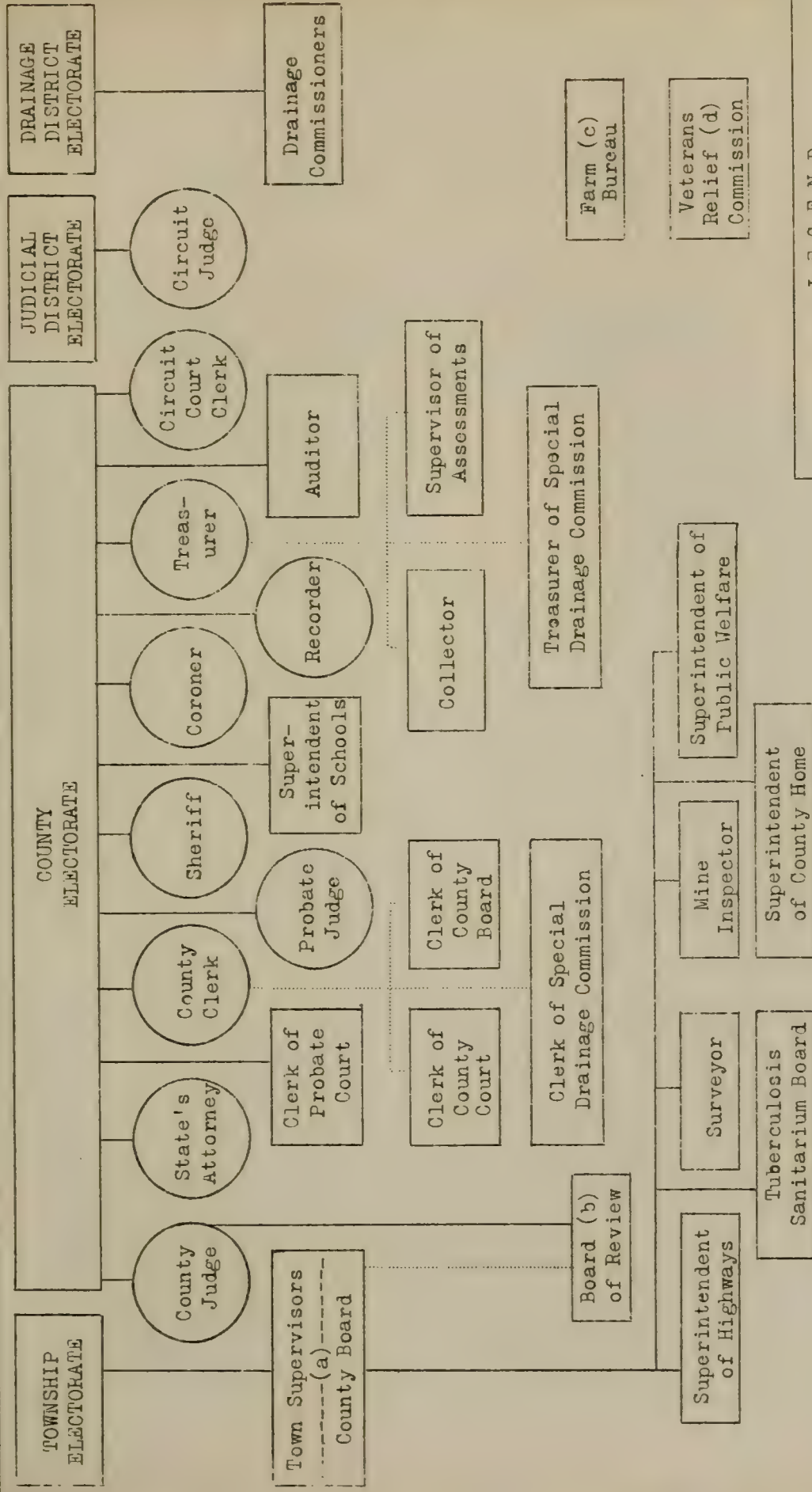
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There are still serious omissions in legislation pertaining to recordation. For instance, Illinois has no law prescribing the kinds of inks to be used in keeping records. And, although laws have been enacted authorizing the provision of fireproof accommodations for county documents, they are permissive rather than mandatory in character.¹ Legislation enabling the destruction of worthless archives apparently is nonexistent with the exception of laws relating to certain election papers.² The enactment of legislation which would remedy these defects in the laws and continue the trend toward state-wide uniformity among counties would result in an intelligent, economical records system for the State of Illinois.

1. L.1842-43, p. 210; L.1845, p. 46.

2. L.1861, p. 269; L.1871-72, p. 389; L.1885, p. 146,193; L.1891, p. 118,119; L.1917, p. 438,443.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, 1939



3. ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICERS*

(Date after name of officer refers to
date of commission, unless otherwise stated)

County Commissioners**

(Subsequent to 1849, county commissioners were replaced
by county judge and two associate justices until
1857, when the board of supervisors assumed
administration of county business)

George W. Harlan, John W. Spencer,	No state records 1838 ¹
George Davenport, July 1, 1833	L. Andrews,
George Davenport, John Vanetta,	August 5, 1839
John W. Spencer, August, 1834	Adolphus Dunlap,
Lucius Wells, John S. Miller,	August 3, 1840
John W. Spencer, August 1, 1836	No state records 1841 ²

* This list was compiled from the following sources, with exceptions as noted:

- A. Secretary of State. Index Department, Election Returns.
Returns from County Clerk to Secretary of State. 1809-47, 78 volumes (1-78), third tier, bay 1. 1848--, 53 file drawers (2-54), third tier, bay 2, State Archives Building, Springfield.
- B. Secretary of State. Executive Department.
Certificates of Qualification. 1819--, 22 file drawers (1-22), fourth tier, bay 5, State Archives Building, Springfield.
- C.(1) Secretary of State. Executive Department Official Records.
List of Commissions Issued to County Officers. 1809-1918, 5 volumes, fourth tier, bay 6, State Archives Building, Springfield.
- (2) Secretary of State. Executive Department Official Records.
List of Commissions Issued to County Officers. 1869--, 4 volumes, room 208, second floor, Secretary of State's Office, Executive Department, State Capitol Building, Springfield.

** All dates shown after commissioners' names indicate the year elected. By a law passed in 1837, the three commissioners elected in 1838 drew lots for one, two, and three years to determine length of term. Thereafter, until 1849, one commissioner was to be regularly elected each year to serve a three-year term.

- 1. Nathaniel Belcher, Jacob Coleman, and Lemuel Andrews took oaths as Commissioners August 17, 1838. Upon drawing lots, Belcher drew the three-year, Coleman the two-year, and Andrews the one-year term. County Commissioners' Records, v. B, p. 13,14.
- 2. John R. Taylor took oath of office as commissioner September 7, 1841. Ibid., p. 186,187.

Roster of County Officers

County Commissioners (cont.)

George S. Moore,		Samuel Slonne,
August,	1842	August 3, 1846
John Kastler,		Jacob Starr,
August 7,	1843	August 2, 1847
William L. Lee,		T. C. Temple,
November 4,	1844	August 7, 1848
No state records	1845 ¹	

County Judges

John W. Spencer,		November 26, 1890,
December 4,	1849	November 26, 1894,
William Baily,		November 28, 1898
November 2,	1852 (elected)	Edwin E. Parmenter,
J. M. Gould,		November 20, 1902,
December 6,	1853	November 30, 1906
Cornelius Snyder, Jr.,		Robert W. Olmstead,
November 21,	1857	April 6, 1907,
Joseph B. Donforth,		November 19, 1910
November 16,	1861	Nels A. Larson,
John M. Wilson,		November 24, 1914,
November 22,	1865,	November 20, 1918
November 29,	1869	George D. Long,
Samuel S. Guyer,		November 20, 1922,
April 11,	1871,	November 17, 1926,
December 1,	1873	November 25, 1930
Lucien Adams,		John W. Heberling,
December 1,	1877,	November 27, 1934
December 1,	1882,	Junius P. Califf ²
December 6,	1886,	

Associate Justices

No state records	1849 ³	George T. Holmes,
		John Kestler ⁴
		December 6, 1853

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1. M. W. Wright took oath of office as commissioner September 3, 1845. County Commissioners' Records, v. C, p. 116.
 2. Shown as county judge in Official List of State and County Officers of Illinois July 1, 1939, compiled by Edward J. Hughes, Secretary of State, p. 44.
 3. Thomas J. Robinson and James Weaverling were sworn and filed bonds as justices of the peace December 3, 1849. County Commissioners' Records, v. C, p. 308.
 4. County records show that John Kestler was not commissioned as associate justice until March 6, 1854. Ibid., v. D. p. 107.

Roster of County Officers

Judges of Probate, Probate Justices of the Peace, and Probate Judges

(In 1837 the probate justice takes the place of the judge of probate until 1849 when he is succeeded by the county judge as ex-officio judge of the probate court to 1910 when separate office of probate judge was established)

Joseph Conway,	November 24, 1914
March 6, 1833	Frank J. Landee,
Miles W. Conway,	November 21, 1918
October 30, 1837	Benjamin D. Farrar,
Harmon G. Reynolds,	August 5, 1922,
September 26, 1839,	November 20, 1922,
September 13, 1843	November 17, 1926,
Ira O. Wilkinson,	November 25, 1930
September 14, 1847	Forest Dizotell,
Benjamin S. Bell,	November 27, 1934
November 19, 1910,	

County Board of Supervisors

The several township supervisors, one elected from each township, together with any additional and assistant supervisors elected upon proportional representation, make up the membership of the county board of supervisors. Because these supervisors, severally, are township officials and only as a group constitute the county board, they are not commissioned by the state as county officers, and no data concerning them, from which a list could be compiled, are kept by the state. For the same reason, county records, too, are inadequate for the compilation of a complete and accurate list of supervisors. Therefore, due to these and other limitations, only those members mentioned in county records in connection with the first recorded meeting of the board of supervisors are included in this roster.

The Rock Island County electorate voted in favor of township organization 2,314 to 147 at the November, 1856 election¹ and on December 2, the county court appointed Lemuel Andrews, Nathaniel Belcher, and F. J. Whitney commissioners to divide the county into townships;² their report, naming and bounding fourteen townships, was filed February 26, 1857, but not recorded.

1. County Commissioners' Records, v. D, p. 333.

2. Ibid., p. 341.

Roster of County Officers

County Board of Supervisors (cont.)

On Monday, June 29, 1857, the first (special) meeting of the board of supervisors was held in the supervisors' room in the new jail building at Rock Island, the following supervisors being present:¹

Supervisor	Township
R. M. Marshall	Rock Island
Z. Cook	"
I. H. Marshall	Canoe Creek
Lucius Wells	Hampton
Peter Demoss	Drury
James Baker	Edgington
T. W. Vincent	Bowling
David S. Hobert	Port Byron
H. J. Brunot	Camden
O. H. P. Moore	Buffalo
Levis Wilson	Coal Valley

R. M. Marshall was elected chairman of the board. Cordova, Fremont, Walker, and Moline townships were not represented.

County Clerks

(Clerks of the county commissioners' court, county court, and county board of supervisors)

No state records, 1833-1838 ²	Joseph Conet,
Joseph Conway,	December 4, 1849
August 5, 1839 (elected)	Albert M. Loop,
Samuel Brown,	December 14, 1853
August 7, 1842 (elected)	Joseph Conet,
William Vandever,	February 8, 1855,
August 5, 1844 (elected)	November 21, 1857,
Jeremiah Chamberlin	November 16, 1861
August 2, 1847 (elected)	

-
1. County Commissioners' Records, v. D, p. 380.
 2. Joseph Conway was appointed clerk at first (special) meeting of the county commissioners' court, July 8, 1833. Ibid., v. A, p. 1-6, and served continuously until the election of his successor August 7, 1842.

Roster of County Officers

County Clerks (cont.)

James M. Beardsley,
November 22, 1865,
November 29, 1869
John V. Cook,
December 1, 1873,
December 1, 1877
R. A. Donaldson,
January 5, 1880
Richard A. Donaldson,
March 1, 1880,
December 1, 1882,
December 6, 1886
Hjalmar Kohler,
November 26, 1890,
November 26, 1894

Henry B. Hubbard,
December 1, 1898,
November 20, 1902,
November 30, 1906,
November 19, 1910,
November 24, 1914,
November 20, 1918,
November 20, 1922
Clarence N. Isaacson,
November 25, 1925,
November 17, 1926,
November 25, 1930
Lennis W. Person,
November 28, 1934
Samuel A. Mullinix,¹

Probate Clerks

John Rinck,
November 19, 1910
John E. Fleming,
February 25, 1911,
November 24, 1914
Leo J. Deisenroth,
April 26, 1915,
November 20, 1916,
November 20, 1918
N. E. Munson,
January 23, 1919,

November 27, 1920,
November 24, 1922,
November 27, 1926
Elmer L. Ranson,
December 7, 1927,
November 26, 1928,
November 25, 1930
Donald E. Tobin,
November 28, 1934
Elmer L. Ranson,²

Recorders

(In 1849 the circuit clerk became ex-officio
recorder to 1912 when a separate office
of recorder was again established)

Joseph Conway,
March 6, 1833,
August 19, 1835
William E. Franklin,
August 22, 1839

Joseph Conway, Jr.,
August 18, 1843
Charles Brooks,
August 18, 1847

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1. Shown as county clerk in Official List of State and County Officers
July 1, 1939, p. 44.
 2. Shown as probate clerk in op. cit., p. 44.

Roster of County Officers

Recorders (cont.)

Sam Ryerson,	November 23, 1928
November 19, 1912,	John Devind,
November 28, 1916,	November 29, 1932,
November 24, 1920,	November 25, 1936
November 24, 1924,	

Circuit Court Clerks
(Prior to 1848, circuit clerk appointed by circuit judge)

Frazier Wilson,	George W. Gamble,
September 4, 1848 (elected),	December 3, 1888,
November 23, 1852	November 30, 1892,
Quincy McNeal,	December 7, 1896,
November 11, 1856	November 30, 1900,
E. H. Bowman,	November 12, 1904,
November 17, 1860	December 3, 1908,
Samuel P. Hodges,	November 19, 1912,
November 8, 1864,	November 28, 1916,
November 3, 1868 (elected)	November 24, 1920,
George D. Gould,	November 24, 1924,
November 30, 1872	November 23, 1928
Levi F. Harsen,	Howard Gregg,
November 28, 1876,	November 29, 1932,
December 1, 1880	December 2, 1936
Edward H. Bowman, Jr.,	
November 22, 1884	

Sheriffs
(Collectors to 1839 and 1844 to 1857)

Benjamin F. Pike,	Samuel Andrews, ¹
July 18, 1833	August 1, 1842,
Michael Bartlet,	November 4, 1844
August 22, 1834	Samuel S. Guyer,
Charles Eames,	August 15, 1846,
August 31, 1836	August 23, 1848
Lucius Wells,	Truman B. Gorton,
August 30, 1838,	November 20, 1850
November 16, 1840	

1. Lemuel Andrews recorded as sheriff December 5, 1842. County Commissioners' Records, v. B, p. 250.

Roster of County Officers

Sheriffs (cont.)

Alexander F. Swander,
November 23, 1852
F. B. Gorton,
November 16, 1854
Ezra M. Beardsley,
November 11, 1856
Moses D. Merrill,
November 30, 1858
David Hawes,
November 17, 1860
Charles A. McLaughtin,
November 20, 1862
Moses D. Merrill,
November 23, 1864
John Peetz,
November 13, 1866
William Drury,
November 20, 1868
William Payne,
December 3, 1870,
November 18, 1872
August Huesing,
November 4, 1874
Josiah L. Perkins,
November 21, 1876,
November 21, 1878,
December 1, 1880
John M. Ritiker,
December 1, 1882

Thomas L. Silvis,
December 6, 1886
Cyrus D. Gordon,
November 26, 1890
Fredrick C. Hemmingway,
November 26, 1894
Levi F. Cralle,
November 28, 1898
W. George Heider,
November 20, 1902
Edward Kittilsen,
November 30, 1906
Oscar L. Bruner,
November 19, 1910
George H. Richmond,
November 24, 1914
Jacob S. Wigers,
November 25, 1918
John G. Miller,
January 14, 1919,
November 24, 1920
Clarence L. Edwards,
November 22, 1922
Howard Gregg,
November 17, 1926
Fred R. Schlueter,
November 25, 1930
Rudolph W. Dropp,
November 27, 1934
Fred R. Schlueter,¹

Coroners

Levi Wells,
July 18, 1833
Londen S. Case,
August 22, 1834
John Walker,
August 31, 1836,

August 23, 1838
Jonathan Buffum,
August 15, 1840
William Bell,²
August 14, 1844

-
1. Shown as sheriff in Official List of State and County Officers July 1, 1939, p. 44.
 2. The date of first commission not shown in state records; supposedly it was 1842.

Roster of County Officers

Coroners (cont.)

Jacob Starr,
January 20, 1845 (elected)
F. S. Kellogg,
August 27, 1846
Huntington Wells,
August 23, 1848
John A. Boyd,
November 20, 1850
John Patterson,
November 17, 1851,
November 23, 1852,
November 16, 1854
Homer L. Abbett,
November 11, 1856
Thomas Martin,
November 2, 1858 (elected)
John R. Corker,
November 17, 1860
Andrew I. Grover,
November 20, 1862,
November 8, 1864 (elected),
George W. Heflin,
November 12, 1866
Charles B. Knox,
November 20, 1868,
November 8, 1870 (elected),
November 18, 1872,
November 14, 1874
Robert H. Vermillion,
November 21, 1876

William G. Morris,
November 19, 1877
James F. Ankrum,
November 5, 1878 (elected)
William G. Morris,
November 22, 1879,
December 1, 1880
David Hawes,
December 1, 1882,
December 1, 1884,
December 3, 1888,
November 8, 1892 (elected)
Louis V. Eckhart,
November 3, 1896 (elected),
November 30, 1900,
November 25, 1904
John F. Rose,
December 4, 1908
R. C. J. Meyer,
November 19, 1912
John G. Miller,
November 28, 1916
John F. Marberry,
February 4, 1919,
November 24, 1920,
November 24, 1924,
November 30, 1928
Harry J. Vance,
November 29, 1932
J. W. Seids,
December 4, 1936

State's Attorneys

(Appointed by the Governor to 1835, by the General Assembly
to 1849; elected by circuit district electorate to 1872)

Edwin E. Parmenter,
November 15, 1872,
November 15, 1876,
November 11, 1880
Walter J. Entnikin,
November 22, 1884
Patrick O'Mara,
December 3, 1888
Mansfield M. Sturgeon,
July 20, 1889
Chas. J. Searle,
November 23, 1892,

December 7, 1896
Harold A. Weld,
November 30, 1900
John K. Scott,
November 16, 1904
Lawrence M. Magill,
December 4, 1908
Floyd E. Thompson,
November 20, 1912,
November 28, 1916
Benjamin S. Bell,
July 21, 1918,

Roster of County Officers

State's Attorneys (cont.)

(Benjamin S. Bell)

December 6, 1920,
November 24, 1924,
November 27, 1928

Francis C. King,

November 29, 1932,
November 28, 1936

Treasurers

(Also acted as assessors to 1839, 1844 to 1857;
supervisors of assessments 1898 to date;
and collectors 1857 to date)

No state records 1833-1838¹

P. Gregg,

August 5, 1839 (elected),
August 7, 1843 "

Manley Danforth,

August 28, 1843 (elected)

Nathaniel Belcher,

January 27, 1844 (elected)

William Bell,

August 2, 1847 (elected)

William Holloway,

August 7, 1848 (elected),
November 6, 1849 "

Samuel Andrews,

November 4, 1851 (elected)

Robert T. Shaw,

November 8, 1853 (elected)

Zachariah Cook,

November 21, 1857

A. S. Wait,

November 30, 1859,
November 27, 1861,
November 11, 1863

Henry F. Thomas,

November 22, 1865,
November 25, 1867

David O. Reid,

November 29, 1869,
November 17, 1871

Samuel R. Porter,

December 1, 1873,
November 17, 1875,
December 1, 1877

Robert F. Reid,

December 1, 1879

John E. Fleming,

December 1, 1882

John Schafer, Jr.,

December 6, 1886

Thomas Campbell,

November 26, 1890

Fred Fitterington,

November 26, 1894

Pleasant F. Cox,

December 1, 1898

David H. Lyon,

December 1, 1902

Pleasant F. Cox,

December 30, 1906

William H. Whiteside,

December 3, 1910

Frank J. Clendenin,

November 24, 1914

W. H. Whiteside,

November 29, 1918

George H. Richmond,

August 1, 1919,
November 24, 1920

1. Joel Wells, Sr., appointed treasurer at first (special) meeting of county commissioners' court held July 8, 1833. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 1-6. Patrick Gregg elected treasurer August 19, 1837, Ibid., p. 248, 249.

Roster of County Officers

Treasurers (cont.)

Chester Thompson,
November 20, 1922
Charles O. Campbell,
November 17, 1926

Clifford E. Hall,
November 26, 1930
Samuel A. Mullinix,
December 3, 1934
Paul A. Dahlen,¹

Auditors

Walter W. Kiltilsen,
November 29, 1932

Arvid G. Johnson,
December 2, 1936

Superintendents of Schools
(School commissioners to 1865)

Miles W. Conway,²
August 7, 1843 (elected)
A. F. Cutter,
August 2, 1847 (elected)
Marcus Osborn,
April 2, 1849 (elected),
November 6, 1849 "
James Chapman,
November 4, 1851 (elected)
I. W. Churchill,
January 11, 1853
George W. Pleasant,
No date of commission recorded
Rufus M. Grenell,
November 21, 1857
Virgil M. Blanding,
November 30, 1859
Charles A. Hardy,
November 16, 1861

William H. Gest,
November 11, 1863,
November 7, 1865 (elected),
November 22, 1865
Mansfield M. Strugeon,
March 24, 1869,
December 1, 1873,
December 1, 1877
James H. Southwell,
December 24, 1881,
December 1, 1882,
December 6, 1886
Charles B. Marshall,
November 26, 1890
Elliott B. McKeever,
November 26, 1894
Samuel J. Ferguson,
November 28, 1898,
November 20, 1902,

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1. Shown as county treasurer in Official List of State and County Officers July 1, 1939, p. 44.
 2. On September 6, 1836 "Elophates Cook appointed Commissioner and Agent for School Lands . . ." County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 183, 184. On September 6, 1839, Joel Thompson was appointed school commissioner, vice E. T. Cook, resigned. Ibid., v. B p. 65. On January 5, 1841, George Lynde was appointed school commissioner, vice Joel Thompson, removed. Ibid., p. 156. On September 8, 1841, Miles Conway presented his bond as school commissioner. Ibid., p. 188.

Roster of County Officers

Superintendents of Schools (cont.)

(Samuel J. Ferguson)	Justice Washburn,
November 30, 1906,	March 23, 1920,
November 19, 1910	December 4, 1922,
Lon M. Harris,	November 24, 1926,
December 9, 1913 (appointed),	November 25, 1930
November 24, 1914,	Floyd A. Shetter,
November 29, 1916	August 9, 1935

Surveyors

(Beginning September, 1936, surveyor appointed
by county board of supervisors)

Miles W. Conway,	Daniel Gordon,
August 19, 1835	November 11, 1863
James P. Harvey,	Melvin A. Gould,
August 22, 1838	November 24, 1865,
Absalom Baxter,	November 5, 1867 (elected)
August 22, 1839	Daniel Gordon,
Cadwalder C. Washburn,	November 29, 1869,
November 16, 1840	November 17, 1871,
P. H. Ogilvie,	November 20, 1875,
August 13, 1842,	December 1, 1879,
August 18, 1843	December 1, 1884
John Wolf,	Henry G. Paddock,
August 3, 1846	December 3, 1888,
William T. Brasher,	November 28, 1892
October 23, 1846,	Louis V. Eckhart,
August 18, 1847,	December 7, 1896
November 6, 1849 (elected)	Melvin A. Gould,
George R. McMurphy,	November 30, 1900,
November 20, 1850,	November 8, 1904 (elected)
November 17, 1851	Wallace Freichler,
Amos Stillman,	April 2, 1907 (elected),
December 6, 1853	November 3, 1908 "
Daniel Pagin,	Curtis Clay Hubbard,
November 15, 1855	November 5, 1912 (elected)
Amos Stillman,	Robert M. Bennell,
November 21, 1857	November 24, 1914,
Daniel Gordon,	November 7, 1916 (elected),
November 30, 1859	November 2, 1920 "
Charles H. Stoddard,	November 20, 1922,
November 16, 1861	November 30, 1928,
	November 29, 1933

4. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

The present courthouse in the city of Rock Island, the county seat of Rock Island County, is only the second in the county's history which began during the Presidency of Andrew Jackson, over one hundred years ago. The long axis of the building extends from south to north, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets; the west or main facade faces Second Avenue and the Mississippi River, while to the east is Third Avenue. To the north of the courthouse, directly across Fifteenth Street, is the county jail.

The first meeting of the Rock Island county commissioners' court, the first county board, was held in the home of John Barrel in Farnhamsburg on July 8, 1833. However, it was not until three years later, on July 6, 1836, that a contract was awarded for the construction of the first courthouse. In the interim, on June 8, 1835, a site for the permanent seat of justice was chosen in a town called Stephenson which, with Farnhamsburg, is now a part of the city of Rock Island.¹

The cost of the first courthouse was in excess of \$10,500, the amount paid to Samuel Smith, the contractor; the county, in addition, had previously contracted to buy one hundred and fifty thousand bricks from Jonah H. Case.² The building was accepted by the county on July 2, 1838.³ For some years, space in the courthouse was rented to various individuals⁴ and, in 1845, the sheriff was requested to rent the courtroom for public worship or other such purpose at the best possible terms to the county.⁵ Ten years earlier, in 1835, the county had made substantial loans to private parties;⁶ renting of space in its new courthouse gave further evidence of forehandedness on the part of county government. But by 1857 the growth in volume of county business necessitated the transfer of the treasurer's office to the upper rooms in the county jail.⁷

By 1877 the courthouse had deteriorated to such an extent that extensive repairs were needed to insure its continued use. New floors were laid, the courtroom enlarged, larger windows put in, the stairway removed from the interior and erected outside, and finally, steam heat installed. The cost of all these renovations amounted to \$4,573.26.⁸

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1. For the history of the selection of the county seat and the construction of the first courthouse, see Historical Sketch, p. 14,15.
 2. County Commissioners' Records, v. A, p. 126,147,155,156,158,257,261,291; v. B, p. 1,7,10,24.
 3. Ibid., v. B, p. 8.
 4. Ibid., p. 133; v. C, p. 38.
 5. Ibid., v. C, p. 112.
 6. Ibid., v. A, p. 80,82,83.
 7. Ibid., v. D, p. 408-10.
 8. Supervisors' Records, v. G, p. 222,223,225,243.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

These repairs proved to be only a temporary relief, however, for by 1883 it was found necessary to erect a building to contain the offices of the county and circuit court clerks and the quarters of the circuit court judge.¹ On July 9 of that year, the committee on public expenditures reported to the board of supervisors the awarding of a building contract to S. J. Collins for \$6,784.² Later, on December 12, an additional contract for \$134 was let for improved iron doors for the vaults.³

The new arrangement, of two buildings housing public offices with resulting inconveniences to both the officials and citizens of Rock Island County, proved unsatisfactory in time. That a new courthouse was needed seemed to be the more common sentiment, as voiced by Supervisor Fitzpatrick. "The present courthouse is old, dilapidated and a perpetual monument indicative of the lack of enterprise, public spirit and progress of the people and citizens of the county, its officers and representatives," he said on April 28, 1893, at a meeting of the county board.⁴ The board, thereupon, appointed a committee composed of Supervisors Fitzpatrick, Schneider, Vinton, Britton, and Trent and instructed them to investigate the "needs of the county" and the probable cost of erecting a new courthouse, and report to the county board at its next meeting in July with a recommendation as to the time and manner of financing the erection, all of which they were cautioned to do with due regard for the "wealth, enterprise, and progress of the county."⁵

The committee reported on July 11, that an expenditure of \$125,000 was necessary for the building of a suitable courthouse, and recommended that the proposition be submitted to the vote of the people at the next general election.⁶ The committee made no recommendation providing for the financing of the work,⁷ but on March 15, 1894 it was decided to issue bonds and the board submitted this question to the county electorate at the following general election.⁸ This election, held November 6, 1894, showed a plurality of 1,739 votes or 3,913 in favor of the proposition to 2,174 against.⁹ A month later, on December 13, a "building committee" was appointed consisting of Supervisors Quayle, Case, Johnson, Hasson, Britton, and Maxwell; also a "bond committee" was selected, composed of Supervisors Schoonmaker, Rensch, Carey, Armstrong, Wilson, Ford, and McMurphy.¹⁰

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1. Supervisors' Records, v. H, p. 594,595.
 2. Ibid., p. 608,609.
 3. Ibid., v. I, p. 22.
 4. Ibid., v. K, p. 41,42.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Ibid., p. 52-54.
 7. Ibid., p. 141,142.
 8. Ibid., p. 154-56.
 9. Ibid., p. 226.
 10. Ibid., p. 241.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

The bond issue of \$125,000 was placed very advantageously with N. W. Harris of Chicago, the county receiving a premium of \$6,550 on the loan. The total sum of \$131,550 was then deposited in local banks at four percent interest.¹ The conditions of the loan called for an interest payment of five percent annually, the bonds to mature in one to ten years, dated March 1, 1895.²

Plans and specifications, drawn by Gunn and Curtis of Kansas City, Missouri, were adopted March 2, 1895, and S. J. Collins was selected to superintend the construction.³ Then, on June 14, the building committee was authorized to enter into a contract with C. J. Larkin to build the courthouse,⁴ after which, on August 7, it was ordered that the laying of the cornerstone be held on October 1, under the auspices of the Old Settlers' Society;⁵ and, to make the event properly ceremonious, it was resolved, on September 12, to petition Daniel Lamont, Secretary of War, for a detail of soldiers from Rock Island Arsenal to fire a salute of eighteen guns.⁶

The new courthouse was seventeen months in building and was dedicated March 1, 1897.⁷ On March 12, county officials were authorized to move in at their earliest convenience.⁸ Meanwhile, the old courthouse was provisionally tendered to the Second Baptist Church, a colored congregation, but when on March 9, J. W. Washington, the pastor, petitioned the board of supervisors that, owing to the economic depression the congregation could raise only a part of the money necessary to remove the building, therefore, a donation of \$75 for this purpose was asked.⁹ The petition was denied and on May 25 the contract to remove the building was awarded to Joseph Hinricks, the lowest bidder, for \$150.¹⁰ The old office building and its contents were reported as sold in 1898.¹¹

The new courthouse cost in excess of \$150,000.¹² It is three full stories and a half in height, practically four stories, with a basement. Cruciform in outline, the east and west axis is shorter than the north-south. Constructed of Bedford stone and concrete, the structure is reinforced with steel girders and covered with a copper roof. The style of architecture reflects many of the best features of Italian Renaissance with

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1. Supervisors' Records, v. K, p. 304,306.
 2. Ibid., p. 266,267.
 3. Ibid., p. 290-93,295-98.
 4. Ibid., p. 339,340.
 5. Ibid., p. 379,380.
 6. Ibid., p. 418,419.
 7. Ibid., v. L, p. 24.
 8. Ibid., p. 52,53.
 9. Ibid., p. 26,27
 10. Ibid., p. 83,84.
 11. Ibid., p. 218.
 12. Ibid., v. K, p. 608; v. L, p. 49-51.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

an occasional motif of Baroque. Appearance of the building is enhanced by the well-proportioned, colonaded tower that rises 75 feet above the center roof line. Dome-like roofs, surmounted by cupolas, adjoin the east and west bases of the tower. The dimensions of the principal mass of this impressive building are, width 190 feet, depth 120 feet, and height 48 feet. Considerable effort has been expended toward beautifying the interior: Carthage marble and ornamental tile are used tastefully in decorations; the ceilings in the Memorial Hall, courtrooms, and in the main offices of the circuit court and county clerks, the recorder, treasurer, and sheriff were frescoed by G. W. Andrews at a cost of approximately \$2,000.¹

Since the completion of the courthouse its interior layout has been changed on many occasions due to circumstances peculiar to Rock Island County. But no cumulative record of these changes has been kept, remodeling being done as the need in each individual office arose, generally upon the order and initiative of the officer who happened to be custodian of it. The present-day layout of offices in the courthouse, therefore, has been progressively developed with an eye toward greatest possible utility. On the first floor are located the probate clerk's office and vault; the combination office of the sheriff and coroner; and the offices of the auditor, superintendent of schools, superintendent of highways, probate judge, and the juvenile probation officer.

On the second floor are the county clerk's office and vault, the recorder's office and vault, the treasurer's office and vault, the county judge's office, the county courtroom, and a smaller courtroom in which the county judge hears juvenile cases. The third floor contains the circuit clerk's office and vault, the circuit courtroom, the state's attorney's suite of four rooms, and a room used by the county board of supervisors and the grand jury. The fourth floor contains the board of review room, a photostating room, a committee room, a kitchen, and the G. A. R. Memorial Hall. The basement, besides the room required for the central heating system, contains the vaults of the county, circuit, and probate clerks, and the treasurer. There are also four unused vaults available in case need for expansion should arise.

Though there is sufficient room for all the principal county offices in the courthouse, some offices, because of their nature, do not require their location there. Thus, the old age assistance office is located in Room 409, Cleaveland Building on Second Street, Rock Island; the office of the superintendent of the county home is in the Rock Island County Home in Coal Valley; the offices of the superintendent of the tuberculosis sanitarium and the medical examiner are in the Rock Island County Tuberculosis Sanitarium, 2212 Twenty-fifth Avenue, Rock Island; the office of the veterans relief commission is in the Municipal Building, 619 Sixteenth Street, Moline; and the office of the county farm bureau is at 1413 Sixth Avenue, Moline.

1. Supervisors' Records, v. I, p. 13,14,22,23,32,33.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

It is interesting to note that such major record-keeping offices as the county clerk, recorder, circuit clerk, and probate clerk store all their records in the vaults. These records are wheeled into the offices on cradle rollers as needed. In the case of the treasurer, only twenty percent of the records are in his office, but in general, ninety-nine percent of record volumes and file boxes are distributed between the office vaults and the vaults in the basement. The distribution of all records in the office vaults is seventy percent, while the basement vaults house the remainder. (For detailed information on the individual depositories, with a description of facilities for the housing of records, see charts on pages 82-85; for allocation of records according to county offices in the depositories, as well as percentages of records stored therein, see charts on pages 86, 87).

Careful provisions for the housing and maintenance of records, with a view toward their best preservation, have been carried out. Workers found that practically every depository was free from soot, dirt, and dampness, and that ventilation was excellent. There are no serious gaps in record series. Binding and repair of record volumes are under direct supervision of the county board. Indexing and filing of records follow systems generally adopted and employed by a majority of other counties in Illinois.

CHART OF DEPOSITORIES, SHOWING LOCATION, CONTENTS, AND CONDITION
 Rock Island County Courthouse, Fifteenth Street and Second Avenue,
 Rock Island, (Three and one-half stories and basement; Bedford stone,
 steel, and concrete construction - 1895; 1,094,400 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Shelving		Records			Housing, Accessibility
							Type	Feet	Quantity			
									Vols.	Containers	Miscellaneous	
Co. clk.'s vlt.	2nd	14x30x32	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 4 windows	tables chairs	steel	1600	787	900 f.b.	1 bdl.	good
Co. clk.'s vlt.	bsmt.	6x22x30	concrete	concrete	electric 1 window	tables 1 chair	wood	700	512	81 f.b.	- - -	good
Cir. clk.'s vlt.	3rd	12x20x30	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 2 windows	tables stools	steel	925	272	1214 f.b.	- - -	good
Cir. clk.'s vlt.	bsmt.	8x22x23	concrete	concrete	electric no windows	table	wood	350	197	17 f.b.	- - -	good
Rec.'s vlt.	2nd	14x22x38	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 4 windows	tables chairs	steel	1132	856	145 f.b.	82 maps	good
Pro. clk.'s vlt.	1st	12x10x12	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 1 window	desks tables chairs	steel	450	296	626 f.b.	- - -	crowded equipment needed
Pro. clk.'s vlt.	bsmt.	8x22x30	concrete	concrete	electric 2 windows	desk tables chairs	steel	65	145	65 f.b.	- - -	good
Sheriff's off.	1st	12x15x18	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 4 windows	desks chairs	steel	200	15	21 f.b.	- - -	good

CHART OF DEPOSITORIES, SHOWING LOCATION, CONTENTS, AND CONDITION
Rock Island County Courthouse (cont.)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Shelving		Records			Housing, Accessibility
							Type	Feet	Vols.	Containers	Miscellaneous	
Coroner's off.	1st	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	shares with Sheriff	- -	- -	4	26 f.b.	- - - -	good
Treas.'s off.	2nd	14x24x40	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 7 windows	desks chairs	steel	475	34	70 f.b.	- - - -	good
Treas.'s vlt.	2nd	8x10x10	concrete	concrete	electric no windows	none	steel	200	6	- - - -	- - - -	good
Treas.'s vlt.	bsmt.	8x22x23	concrete	plaster on concrete	electric 2 windows	none	wood	490	204	12 f.b.	86 bdl.	good
Auditor's off.	1st	12x12x25	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 5 windows	desks chairs	- -	- -	- -	8 f.b.	3 books	good
Off. of Supt. of Sch.	1st	12x10x12	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 5 windows	desks chairs tables	steel	200	92	3 f.b.	11 bdl.	good
Off. of Supt. of Hys.	1st	12x11x16	wood	plaster on concrete	electric 4 windows	desks chairs	wood	15	3	37 f.b.	5 maps	good

CHART OF DEPOSITORIES, SHOWING LOCATION, CONTENTS, AND CONDITION
Cleveland Building, Room 409, Second Street, Rock Island

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Shelving		Records			Housing, Accessibility
							Type	Feet	Vols.	Containers	Miscellaneous	
Old age asst. off.	- -	14x10	linoleum on concrete	plaster	electric 2 windows	good	- -	- -	1	27 f.d.	- - -	good

Rock Island County Home, Coal Valley
(Two stories; brick construction - 1900; 30,000 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Shelving		Records			Housing, Accessibility
							Type	Feet	Vols.	Containers	Miscellaneous	
Supt.'s off.	1st	10x12x15	wood	plaster	electric 3 windows	3 desks 10 chairs	--	- -	16	2 f.b.	- - -	good

Rock Island County Tuberculosis Sanitarium, 2212 Twenty-fifth Avenue, Rock Island
(Three stories and basement; brick, stone, concrete and steel construction - 1932; 280,000 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Shelving		Records			Housing, Accessibility
							Type	Feet	Vols.	Containers	Miscellaneous	
Supt.'s off.	1st	12x10x15	tile	plaster	electric 1 window	1 desk 2 chairs	- -	- -	1	- - -	- - -	good
Off. of Medical Director	1st	12x10x15	tile	plaster	electric 2 windows	1 desk 3 chairs	wood	50	- -	3 f.b.	1 desk drawer	filing case needed

CHART OF DEPOSITORIES, SHOWING LOCATION, CONTENTS, AND CONDITION
Veterans Relief Commission, Municipal Building, 619 Sixteenth Street, Moline

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Records			
							Shelving		Quantity	
							Type	Feet	Vols.	Containers
office	2nd	8x9x17	cement	plaster	electric 2 windows	limited	- -	- -	- -	7 f.d.
closet	2nd	8x5x7	cement	plaster	electric no windows	limited	- -	- -	- -	12 f.d.
washroom	2nd	8x5x8	cement	plaster	electric 1 window	limited	- -	- -	- -	4 f.d.
										crowded
										crowded poor
										crowded poor

County Farm Bureau, 1413 Sixth Avenue, Moline

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Floors	Walls and Ceiling	Light and Ventilation	Accommodations	Records			
							Shelving		Quantity	
							Type	Feet	Vols.	Containers
office	1st	10x30x70	wood	plaster metal	electric 2 windows	good	- -	- -	- -	8 f.d.
										1 safe
										good

CHART OF COUNTY OFFICES, SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF RECORDS IN DEPOSITORIES

1 86 1

Office	Volumes	Containers	Miscellaneous	Depository and Percent of Records*
County Board	59	270 f.b.	1 bdl.	Co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 78-; co. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 22; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt.
County Clerk	1043	222 f.b.	- - - -	Co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 53 $\frac{1}{2}$; co. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 45; treas.'s off., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt.
Recorder	945	146 f.b.	83 maps	Rec.'s vlt., 90 $\frac{1}{2}$; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ -; co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl.; cir. clk.'s vlt. 3rd fl.
County Court	200	476 f.b.	- - - -	Co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; co. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Probate Court	441	691 f.b.	- - - -	Pro. clk.'s vlt. 1st fl., 71; pro. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 29
Circuit Court	364	1256 f.b.	- - - -	Cir. clk.'s vlt. 3rd fl., 81 $\frac{1}{2}$; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 18; cor.'s off., $\frac{1}{2}$
Sheriff	29	21 f.b.	- - - -	Sheriff's off., 82; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 18
Coroner	8	- - - -	- - - -	Cor.'s off., 50; co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 37 $\frac{1}{2}$
State's Attorney	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	State's attorney keeps no records; his reports to circuit court are in the circuit clerk's vault, 3rd fl.
Supervisor of Assessments	2	75 f.b.	- - - -	Treas.'s off., 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; co. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 4; co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Collector	211	12 f.b.	82 bdl.	Treas.'s vlt. bsmt., 90; treas.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 1; treas.'s off., 6; cir. clk.'s vlt. bsmt., 3

* Minus sign after percentage figure indicates a deficiency of less than one half of one percent; for fractional quantities of records, depositories only are listed.

CHART OF COUNTY OFFICES, SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF RECORDS IN DEPOSITORIES

Office	Volumes	Containers	Miscellaneous	Depository and Percent of Records*
Treasurer	25	- - - -	4 bdl.	Treas.'s off., 24; treas.'s vlt. bsmt., 60; treas.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 16.
Auditor	- - -	8 f.b.	3 booklets	Auditor's off., 100
Supt. of Schools	92	3 f.b.	11 bdl.	Off. of supt. of sch., 100.
Supt. of Highways	3	37 f.b.	5 maps	Off. of supt. of hways., 100.
Surveyor	3	- - - -	- - - -	Co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 66 $\frac{1}{2}$; rec.'s vlt., 33 $\frac{1}{2}$.
Drainage Commissioners	- - -	8 f.b.	1 desk drawer 1 shelf	Co. clk.'s vlt. 2nd fl., 100.
Board of Tuberculosis Sanitarium	1	3 f.b.	- - - -	Off. of supt. of tuberculosis sanitarium, 50; off. of medical director, 50.
Department of Public Welfare	- - -	27 f.d.	- - - -	Old age assistance office, 100.
County Home	16	2 f.b.	- - - -	Off. of supt. of co. home, 100.
Farm Bureau	- - -	8 f.d.	1 safe	Off. of farm bureau, 100.
Veterans Relief Commission	- - -	23 f.d.	- - - -	Office, 30; closet, 52; washroom, 18.

*Minus sign after percentage figure indicates a deficiency of less than one half of one percent; for fractional quantities of records, depositories only are listed.

5. ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

alph.	alphabetical(ly)
app.	appendix
arr.	arranged (arrangement)
Art.	Article
assr.	assessor
atty.	attorney
aud.	auditor
bd.	board
bdl.	bundle(s)
bldg.	building
bsmt.	basement
cf.	confer (compare)
ch.	chapter(s)
chron.	chronological(ly)
cir.	circuit
clk.	clerk
co.	county
coll.	collector
cont.	continued
cor.	coroner
ct.	court
dept.	department
ed.	edited, edition
f.b.	file box(es)
f.d.	file drawer(s)
f., ff.	and following page (pages)
fl.	floor
fm.	form
ft.	feet
hdgs.	headings
hdw.	handwritten
hwys.	highways
ibid.	ibidem (in the same place)
i.e.	id est (that is)
Ill.	Illinois Reports (Supreme Court)
Ill.App.	Illinois Appellate Court (Reports)
Ill. S.A.	Illinois Statutes Annotated
in.	inch(es)
L.	Laws (of Illinois)
loc. cit.	loco citato (in the place cited)
mi.	mile(s)
n.	footnote(s)
no.(s)	number(s)
N.W.	Northwestern Reporter
off.	office
op. cit.	opere citato (in the work cited)

Abbreviations, Symbols,
and Explanatory Notes

p.	page(s)
pr.	printed
pro.	probate
rec.	recorder
R.L.	Revised Laws (of Illinois)
rm.	room
R.S.	Revised Statutes (of Illinois)
sch.	school(s)
sec.	section(s)
sep.	separate
Sess.	Session
sh.	sheriff
Sp.	Special
strm.	storeroom
supt.	superintendent
surv.	surveyor
treas.	treasurer
twp.(s)	township(s)
U.S.R.S.	United States Revised Statutes
U.S.S.L.	United States Statutes at Large
v.	volume(s)
vet.	veterinarian
vice	in place of
vlt.	vault
--	current

1. Despite inaccuracies in spelling and punctuation, titles of records are shown in the inventory proper exactly as on volumes and file boxes. The current or most recent title is used as the title of the entry.

2. Explanatory additions to inadequate titles and correctness of erroneous titles are enclosed in parentheses and have initial capitals.

3. In the absence of titles, supplied titles are capitalized and enclosed in parentheses.

4. In the title set-up, letters or numbers in parentheses indicate the exact labeling on volumes or file boxes. If the volumes or file boxes are unlabeled, no labeling is indicated.

5. Title line cross references are used to complete series for records kept separately for a period of time, and in other records for different periods of time, as in entry 4, "1833-86 in Supervisors' Records, entry 3." They are also used in all artificial entries - records which must be shown separately under their own proper office or section heading even though they are kept in files or records appearing elsewhere in the inventory, as in entry 41, "1850-- in Collector's

Abbreviations, Symbols,
and Explanatory Notes

Book, entry 49." In both instances, the description of the master entry shows the title and entry number of the record from which the cross reference is made, as in entry 3, "Also contains Supervisors' Blotter, 1833-86, entry 4." Dates shown in the description of the master entry are only for the part or parts of the record contained therein, and are shown only when they vary from those of the master entry.

6. Separate third paragraph cross references from entry to entry, and "see also" references under subject headings, are used to show prior, subsequent, or related records which are not part of the same series.

7. Where no explanation of the beginning or for the discontinuance of a record is given, and where no cross reference appears, the information explaining such beginning or discontinuance could not be ascertained.

8. Unless the index is self-contained, an entry for the index immediately follows its record entry. Cross references are given for exceptions to this rule.

9. Records may be assumed to be in good condition unless otherwise indicated.

10. On maps and plat records, the names of author, engraver, and publisher, and information on scale have been omitted only when these data were not ascertainable.

11. Unless otherwise specified, all records are located in the county courthouse.

I. COUNTY BOARD

In Illinois, the county board is that body which exercises the corporate or politic power of the county.¹ In Rock Island County since 1833² three bodies have successively acted as a county board; the county commissioners' court, the county court, and the board of supervisors.

The Constitution of 1818 provided that there should be elected in each county, for the purpose of transacting all county business, three commissioners whose term of service, powers, and duties should be regulated and defined by law.³ The first General Assembly denominated the commissioners a court of record, styled the county commissioners' court.⁴ Four annual sessions were required to be held for six days each, unless the business should be completed sooner; additionally, any one of the commissioners had power, upon giving five days' notice to the remaining commissioners and the clerk of the court, to call a special court which had the same authority as at a regular session.⁵ The first commissioners were elected for an irregular term;⁶ subsequently, it was provided that they should be elected at each biennial general election;⁷ and in 1837, the term was lengthened to three years and staggered, with one new commissioner elected annually.⁸ Thereafter, the commissioner who was longest in office was to be recognized as the presiding officer of the court.⁹ Compensation, originally set at the sum of \$2.50 for each day's attendance in holding court,¹⁰ later was reduced to \$1.50.¹¹ In 1821 provision was

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1. P.L.1827, p. 107; R.S.1845, p. 130; R.S.1874, p. 306.
 2. Rock Island was created in 1831, but was not organized until 1833, during those years it was included within the jurisdiction of Jo Daviess County. L.1831, p. 53.
 3. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4.
 4. L.1819, p. 175.
 5. Ibid., p. 175,176.
 6. Ibid., p. 100. The commissioners were to continue in office from the election held on the fourth Monday in April, 1819, until the first Wednesday in August, 1820, and until their successors were elected and qualified. Not until 1821 was provision made for the election of such successors (L.1821, p. 80). In Rock Island County, the first commissioners held office from July 5, 1833 to August 4, 1834, the next occurrence of a regular biennial election.
 7. L.1821, p. 80.
 8. R.L.1837, p. 103,104. In 1838, to initiate the new procedure, three commissioners were elected; by lot, they held office respectively for one, two, and three years.
 9. Ibid., p. 104.
 10. L.1819, p. 176.
 11. R.L.1827, p. 205.

County Board

made for the removal of commissioners for malfeasance or nonfeasance of duties, with proceedings as in criminal cases;¹ when the first criminal code was enacted in 1827, the penalty was modified to a fine of not more than \$200, with removal from office only upon recommendation of the jury.² Vacancies resulting from any cause were filled by special election upon order of the clerk of the court to the district judges of election.³

In 1848 when the State of Illinois adopted a new constitution, the county commissioners' court was discontinued. In its place, the constitution provided for an administrative body to be composed of an elected officer, the county judge, and such number of justices of the peace as should be required by law.⁴ In the following legislative session, the General Assembly provided for the election of two justices of the peace to sit with the county judge to transact county business.⁵ Their term of office, like that of the county judge, was set at four years.⁶ This body, styled the county court, was required to hold four sessions annually and when so sitting, had all power, jurisdiction, and authority formerly conferred upon the county commissioners' court.⁷ The compensation of the county judge was originally set at \$2.50 for every day of holding court.⁸ In 1855 the amount was increased to \$3.00.⁹

The new constitution also directed the General Assembly to provide, by general law, for a township organization under which any county might organize whenever a majority of the voters in the county should so determine.¹⁰ By provision of the subsequent enabling acts,¹¹ a board of supervisors, whose members were to be elected one in each township annually,¹² was created to transact all county business in counties adopting township organization.¹³ The board of supervisors was to meet for one regular session a year with the provision that special meetings might

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1. L.1821, p. 20. Conviction further carried disqualification from holding office for one year.
 2. R.L.1827, p. 145.
 3. R.L.1837, p. 104. No election was required to be held if the term of the commissioner vacating office would have expired within six months from the date of vacancy.
 4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,17,19.
 5. L.1849, p. 65,66.
 6. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17; L.1849, p. 62,65,66.
 7. L.1849, p. 65.
 8. Ibid., p. 63.
 9. L.1855, p. 181.
 10. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
 11. L.1849, p. 190-224; L.1851, p. 35-78. The later law repealed and was a complete substitute for the earlier, but so far as their effect on the sphere of county government is concerned, there was almost no difference between the two.
 12. L.1849, p. 192; L.1851, p. 38.
 13. L.1849, p. 202-4; L.1851, p. 50-52.

County Board

by held when convenient.¹ The board members were compensated at the rate of \$1.50 a day,² and a fine was provided in the sum of \$250.00, for refusal to perform, or neglect of, duties.³

Rock Island County was governed by the county court from 1849 to 1857, when township organization was instituted.⁴ In 1870 Illinois adopted a new constitution, which continued the provision for township organization in counties so electing,⁵ and provided for a different form of county board to supplant the county court as an administrative body. This board was to consist of three officers, styled county commissioners, and by subsequent legislation, was given all powers, jurisdiction, and authority formerly vested in the county court when acting in its administrative capacity.⁶ Rock Island was never affected by these laws as it has retained township organization from 1857 to date.

Since 1874 population has been a factor in local representation on the board of supervisors. In that year, each town or city besides its regular supervisor, became entitled to one assistant supervisor if it had four thousand or more inhabitants, two if sixty-five hundred, and one more for every additional twenty-five hundred.⁷ In 1931, these population requirements were made to affect only those counties having less than one hundred thousand inhabitants.⁸ The differentiating figure was reduced in 1933 to ninety thousand;⁹ however, in counties having a population of ninety thousand or more, each town or city was allowed one additional supervisor for every five thousand inhabitants, or major fraction thereof.¹⁰ Rock Island, with its population of 98,191 according to the 1930 census was affected by the latter change.¹¹ The assistant supervisors, whose terms run concurrently with those of regular supervisors,¹²

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1. L.1849, p. 202; L.1851, p. 51. In 1861 it was provided that special meetings could be called upon request of one third of the members of the board (L.1861, p. 236). Since 1899 the board has been required to hold two regular meetings (L.1899, p. 363).
 2. L.1849, p. 203; L.1851, p. 52. In 1861 compensation was increased to \$2.00 a day (L.1861, p. 238).
 3. L.1849, p. 203, 204. This fine was reduced in 1851 to \$200 (L.1851, p. 52). Subsequent legislation reduced it still further and added the more frequent penalty for misfeasance, disqualification for office (R.S.1874, p. 1080).
 4. Rock Island County adopted township organization in 1856 which became effective in 1857.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 5.
 6. Ibid., Art. X, sec. 6; L.1873-74, p. 79, 80.
 7. R.S.1874, p. 1075.
 8. L.1931, p. 908.
 9. L.1933, p. 1116.
 10. Ibid.; L.1939, p. 1205, 1206.
 11. Population Bulletin, p. 9.
 12. L.1933, p. 1115.

County Board

have no power or duties as town officers, but are members of the county board and enjoy the same powers and rights as other members.¹ At present its board of supervisors has thirty-four members. The term of office of supervisors, lengthened in 1889 to two years,² was further extended in 1929 to four years.³ Compensation was increased from \$1.50 to \$5.00 a day in 1919,⁴ lowered to \$4.00 in 1933,⁵ and raised again to \$5.00 in 1937,⁶ with an allowance of five cents per mile for necessary travel.

The functions of the Illinois county board, in contrast to its legal status, have undergone little change since the beginning of statehood, the development being merely one of accretion and increasing complexity of duties within a well-defined and nearly static sphere of authority and jurisdiction. The law establishing the court of county commissioners conferred upon it jurisdiction in all matters concerning county revenue.⁷ Of this basic provision, nearly all other statutory powers of the court can be considered extensions; some, enunciated in the same law, already show such a legislative viewpoint. The court was given power to regulate and impose the county tax, and to grant such licenses as might also bring in a revenue; additionally, it was given authority over all public roads, canals, turnpike roads, and toll bridges.⁸ Other legislation by the first General Assembly gave the court power to buy and sell lots whereon to erect county buildings and to contract for their construction;⁹ later, in the case of the courthouse at least, the court was declared to have the care and custody of the property and the right to make certain disposition of it.¹⁰ Care of the indigent was also made a function of the court; it was required to make appropriations, to be levied and collected in the same manner as other county revenue, for their support. As an extension of this fiscal function, it was required to appoint an overseer of the poor in every township and establish a county poorhouse if necessary.¹¹ Fiscal control over school lands was exercised at first solely through the court's power of appointment of the trustees of school lands;¹² after the creation of the office of county school commissioner,¹³ firmer control was affected through the medium of reports which the commissioner

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1. R.S.1874, p. 1078,1080; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905, 907; L.1933, p. 1115.
 2. L.1889, p. 109; L.1917, p. 793; L.1925, p. 605.
 3. L.1929, p. 774,775; L.1931, p. 906.
 4. L.1849, p. 203; L.1857, p. 186; L.1871-72, p. 444; L.1919, p. 569.
 5. L.1933, p. 615.
 6. L.1937, p. 601.
 7. L.1819, p. 175.
 8. Ibid.
 9. Ibid., p. 237,238.
 10. L.1843, p. 128.
 11. L.1819, p. 127; L.1839, p. 138,139.
 12. R.L.1827, p. 366.
 13. R.L.1829, p. 150.

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was required to submit to the court.¹ By the terms of another early provision, a significant precursor of many similar ones to be found in more recent years, the court also had authority to examine the full accounts of the commissioner.² Other aspects of government which, if farther removed from the fiscal core, come early into this jurisdictional sphere, are elections and juries. With regard to the former, the court was authorized to establish election precincts,³ appoint judges of election,⁴ and allow compensation to election officials for services and stationery.⁵ Its duty with regard to juries was relatively simple; it was required to select two panels each of petit and grand jurors. The former were required to be enrolled on the list of taxable inhabitants; the latter, only to be freeholders or householders.⁶

The substitution of the county court for the county commissioners' court produced no important changes in the sphere of government; neither the second constitution nor the enabling legislation made any original pronouncements with regard to the powers or duties of the former.⁷

The revised law on township organization, in the main, only made more inclusive and definite the powers of the board.⁸ The board was given authority to purchase and hold any land within the county for the use of its inhabitants; it was also given authority to make such contracts, and to purchase and hold such personal property as might be necessary to the exercise of its powers; moreover, it could make such orders for the disposition, regulation, or use of the corporate property as might seem to be to the interest of the inhabitants.⁹ Explicit also, was the authority to audit all claims against the county, and the accounts of such officers as were not otherwise provided for by law.¹⁰ The board was also given power to appropriate funds for the construction of roads and bridges in any part of the county whenever a majority of the whole board might deem it proper and expedient.¹¹

From the enabling legislation of the present constitutional period

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1. L.1831, p. 175; R.S.1845, p. 500,501.
 2. L.1831, p. 175.
 3. L.1821, p. 74. There was in this law and in many of those following, a limit to the number of precincts which could be established. See L.1825, p. 168; R.L.1827, p. 256; R.L.1829, p. 54; L.1835, p. 141. Prior to 1821, each township was declared by statute to constitute an election district (L.1819, p. 90).
 4. L.1819, p. 90.
 5. Ibid., p. 99.
 6. Ibid., p. 255; L.1823, p. 182.
 7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65.
 8. The Act of February 17, 1851, previously cited (L.1851, p. 35-78).
 9. Ibid., p. 50.
 10. Ibid., p. 51.
 11. Ibid.

County Board

is drawn the following brief statement of the principal functions of the county board:

1. The purchase, sale, and custody of the real and personal property of the county.
2. The examination and settlement of accounts against the county.
3. The issuance of orders on the county treasury in pursuance of its fiscal administration.
4. The examination of accounts concerning the receipts and expenditures of county officers.¹
5. The supervision of elections,² the selection of juries;³ the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges;⁴ the care of the indigent, infirm, and disabled.⁵
6. The appropriation of funds necessary to the effecting of its functions;⁶ the raising of such sums through taxation; and in general, the management of county funds and county business.⁷

At all times the county board has had a clerk who has served it in a ministerial capacity. The law creating the county commissioners' court provided that it should have such an officer, and gave it the power to appoint him.⁸ This appointive power was rescinded in 1837 by an act which made the office elective.⁹

When the county court supplanted the county commissioners' court, the office of clerk of the latter body ceased to exist. A new office was created by statute, that of clerk of the county court.¹⁰ When the court sat for the transaction of county business, its clerk was in effect a clerk of a county board; legal recognition of this distinction was given in the provision that the clerk should keep his records of the court's administrative actions separate from those of its judicial actions. For this purpose two sets of books were to be kept.¹¹

In 1870 the new constitution established the office of county clerk;¹² subsequently, the General Assembly provided that the county clerk should

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1. R.S.1874, p. 306,307.
 2. Ibid., p. 456,468.
 3. Ibid., p. 630.
 4. Ibid., p. 310.
 5. Ibid., p. 757,758.
 6. Ibid., p. 307.
 7. Ibid., p. 306,307.
 8. L.1819, p. 175.
 9. R.L.1837, p. 49.
 10. L.1849, p. 63.
 11. Ibid., p. 66.
 12. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.

act as clerk of the county board¹ as well as clerk of the county court.² From that time to the present, the county board has been served in a ministerial capacity by this officer. The major record kept by the clerk for the county board is the minutes of its proceedings. This heterogeneous record includes orders to issue warrants on the county treasury; the board's consideration of the action on reports of committees of its members on roads and bridges, indigent and infirm relief, schools, taxation, etc.; and its orders in regard to juries, licenses, and other matters within its jurisdiction.³

The clerk also keeps, separately, a register of orders issued on the county treasury and lists of jury venire; files and preserves all bills of accounts acted on by the board; and has custody of reports required to be made to the board by the county treasurer, various school bodies, and a number of county officers.⁴ An obligation to preserve a multiplicity of other records is clearly set forth in the general provision requiring the clerk to have the care and custody of all papers appertaining to, as well as filed in, his office.⁵

Proceedings of Board
(See also entry 124[viii])

1. INDEX TO SUPERVISORS' RECORDS, 1833--. 4 v. (A-D). Title varies: Index to County Records.

Index to Supervisors' Records (Papers), entry 2; Supervisors' Records, entry 3; Supervisors' Blotter, entry 4; and (Board of Supervisors' Claims), entry 9, showing date of meeting, nature of proceedings, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by subject. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

2. SUPERVISORS' RECORDS (Papers), 1833--. 156 f.b.

Petitions, resolutions, communications, tax levies, bonds of officers, reports of county treasurer, application for appointment as county officer, and jail and election expense reports. Also contains (Board of Supervisors' Claims), 1833-1926, entry 9, and Supervisors' Reports, 1932--, entry 34. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 1. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

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1. R.S.1874, p. 322.
 2. Ibid., p. 260.
 3. L.1819, p. 6, 28, 77, 127, 334, 335, 352; R.L.1829, p. 151-53; L.1831, p. 89, 90; L.1835, p. 131, 132, 136; L.1839, p. 71, 72; R.S.1845, p. 287, 342, 403, 437; L.1849, p. 66; L.1861, p. 234-37; R.S.1874, p. 322.
 4. R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1845, p. 169; R.S.1845, p. 136; L.1861, p. 237.
 5. R.S.1874, p. 322.

County Board - Disposition
of Accounts

(3-8)

3. SUPERVISORS' RECORDS, 1833--. 21 v. (A-U). Title varies:
County Commissioners' Records.

Records of proceedings of county board, showing date, roll call, minutes, transacted business, reports, and resolutions adopted. Also contains Supervisors' Blotter, 1833-86, entry 4; Sale Book, 1858--, entry 5; Reports of Committees on Fees and Salaries, 1920--, entry 31; Jail and Jail Accounts, 1920--, entry 32; Accounts of Overseer of Poor, 1920--, entry 33; Land Books, 1898--, entry 38; and Record of Liquor Licenses, 1877--, entry 105. Arr. by date of meeting. For index, see entry 1. 1833-1921, hdw.; 1922--, typed. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

4. SUPERVISORS' BLOTTER, 1887--. 4 v. 1833-86 in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Minutes of meetings of board of supervisors in special session, showing date, roll call, motions, actions, reports of committees, and names of committee members. Arr. by date of meeting. For index, see entry 1. 1887-1921, hdw.; 1922--, typed. 480 p. 16 x 11 x 2. 3 v., 1887-95, 1902--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 v., 1896-1901, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

5. SALE BOOK, 1835-57. 1 v. 1858-- in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Copies of vendors' permits issued by county board, showing description of business, name of vendor, amount of fee, and date of permit. Arr. by date of permit. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 65 p. 12 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

6. SCHOOL LANDS, 1837-65. 1 v.

Copies of orders of county board creating school districts, and reports of school commissioner regarding the sale of school lands. Arr. by date of order or report. No index. Hdw. 250 p. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Disposition of Accounts
(See also entries 390-392)

Bills and Claims

7. VACATION AND TELEPHONE BILLS AND ELECTION CERTIFICATES, 1916--.
1 f.b. (47).

Claims for county clerk's incidental expenses, showing name of claimant, purpose and amount of claim, authorization, order number, and date of filing; includes copies of election certificates of township officers. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

8. VACATION BILLS, 1926--. 3 f.b.

Claims ordered paid by county clerk when supervisors are not in session, showing name of claimant, purpose, rate, amount, and date of claim, and county order number. Arr. by date of claim. No index. Typed and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Board - Disposition
of Accounts

(9-15)

9. (BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' CLAIMS), 1927--. 24 f.b. (48-63, 75-78, 4 not numbered). 1833-1926 in Supervisors' Records (Papers), entry 2.

Claims of county home and state institutions, and township claims for fees and salaries, showing name of institution or township, amount of claim, date of authorization for payment, and date of payment. Also contains Tuberculosis Sanitarium Claims, entry 10. Arr. by date of payment. For index, see entry 1. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x 24. F.b. 48-63, 75-78, 1927-34, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 4 f.b. not numbered, 1935--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

10. TUBERCULOSIS SANITARIUM CLAIMS, 1924-26. 2 f.b. 1927-- in (Board of Supervisors' Claims), entry 9.

Claims of tuberculosis sanitarium for clothing, food, and fuel expenditures, showing name of officer filing claim, auditor's certificate of audit, date of payment, county order number, and date of filing. Arr. by order no. No index. Typed. 11 x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

11. COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND, 1922--. 11 f.b. (1-11).

County highway bills allowed showing date, order number, name of payee, purpose of payment, and auditor's certificate of audit. Arr. by order no. No index. Typed. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

12. MFT (Motor Fuel Tax), 1932--. 6 f.b. (1-6).

Bills allowed by board of supervisors to be paid from motor fuel tax fund, showing date, amount, and purpose of payment, name of payee, and order number; includes reports of road committees. Arr. by order no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

13. SBIR (State Bond Issue Refund), 1932--. 2 f.b. (1, 2).

Bills, orders, and reports of county highway engineer for payment by warrants from fund accruing from state bond issue, showing date, order number, purpose of payment, and name of payee. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

14. MISCELLANEOUS CLAIMS, 1879-1919. 4 v.

Ledger of county surveyor's, county officers', and election expenses approved by board of supervisors, showing name of claimant, amount and nature of claim, and date of payment. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 15 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Register of County Orders

15. RECORD OF COUNTY ORDERS, 1902--. 6 v. (I-N). Title varies: Register of County Orders.

Register of county orders including witness fees, showing name of payee and date, amount, purpose, and number of order. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. V. I-K, 1902-22, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. L-N, 1923--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Board - Disposition
of Accounts

(16-22)

Cancelled County Orders

16. (ORDERS TO PAY COUNTY TREASURER AND RECEIPTS), 1874--.
1 f.b. (22).

Receipts and cancelled orders to pay county treasurer, showing date, amount, and purpose of payment, and date of cancellation. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

17. CANCELLED COUNTY ORDERS AND JURY CERTIFICATES, 1925--.
21 f.b. (34-42, 65-74, 12, 13).

Cancelled county orders showing number, date, and amount of order, name of payee, and purpose of payment; includes jury certificates, showing date, name of juror, days of service, rate, total fees, and signature of certifying officer. Arr. by order no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. F.b. 34-42, 65-74, 1925-35, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; f.b. 12, 13, 1936--., co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

18. HIGHWAY FUND, 1922--. 11 f.b. (1-11).

Cancelled county highway orders directing payments from county highway fund, showing date, purpose, amount, and number of order, name of payee, and signature of clerk. Also contains (Road Bond Fund), 1934--., entry 19. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

19. (ROAD BOND FUND), 1924-33. 2 f.b. 1934-- in Highway Fund, entry 18.

Cancelled county highway orders directing payments from road bond fund, showing amount, purpose, and number of order, name of payee, date of filing, and signature of clerk. Arr. by order no. No index. Typed. 10 x 4 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

20. GROUND HOG BOUNTY, 1923-24. 1 v.

Stubs of orders issued for payment of bounty for ground hog destruction, showing date, number, and amount of payment, and name of payee. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 16 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Pension Funds and Applica-
tions (See also entries 239, 397)

21. PENSION (Mothers'), 1887--. 11 f.b.

Files of applications for mothers' pensions, including summonses, petitions, reports, and recommendations, showing date, name of mother, number of dependent children, amount of allowance, and date of filing. Arr. by application no. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

22. RELIEF OF BLIND (Applications), 1915--. 1 f.b. (1133).

Applications for blind relief, showing number and date of application, name, age, and address of applicant, name of examiner, date of examination, affidavits of witnesses, and date of approval. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Board - Management of
County Property and Roads

(23-29)

23. RELIEF OF BLIND RECORD, 1903--. 2 v. (1 v., 1903-29; 1 v., 1903--).

Register of applications for relief of blind persons, showing number of application, name, age, and address of applicant, date of examination, name and findings of examiner, and date of approval. 1 volume, 1903-29, has been transcribed into current volume. Arr. by date of application. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Management of County Property and Roads
(See also entries 63, 124[i, iii])

Contracts

24. (PHYSICIANS' CONTRACTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS), 1914--. 1 f.b. (1122).

Files of miscellaneous papers containing abstract of title to county tuberculosis sanatorium, papers relating to county land purchases, and contracts with physicians to supply free medical service to needy. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

25. CONTRACTS, 1919-33. 1 f.b.

Agreements to furnish supplies for county institutions and contracts for construction of bridges and roads, showing names of contracting parties, date, conditions, specifications, and terms of contract, amount of bond, names of sureties and principal, date of filing, and book and page of entry in supervisors' records. Arr. by date of filing. No index. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Bond Issues

26. INCREASE IN TAX RATE (Bond Issues), 1935--. 1 f.b.

Papers concerning levy of special tax by commissioner of highways for roads, resolution for issuance of road bonds, and ordinances for issuance of town hall and hospital bonds. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Typed. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

27. (BONDS), 1915--. 3 f.b. (1113, 1136, 1139). Missing: 1919-21. County jail, road, and bridge bonds, showing denomination, name of purchaser, rate of interest, date of expiration, and date of payment by county treasurer. Also contains (Coupons), 1930--, entry 29. Arr. by date of expiration of bond. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

28. (CANCELLED ROAD BONDS), 1922--. 3 f.b. (1132, 1138, 1143). Cancelled road bonds issued by county in 1922, showing denomination, interest rates, and dates of issue and maturity. Arr. by date of maturity. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

29. (COUPONS), 1923-29. 1 f.b. (1129). 1930-- in (Bonds), entry 27. Coupons clipped from road and various county bond issues and paid by county treasurer, showing name of bondholder, amount and date of coupon. Arr. by date of coupon. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

30. REGISTER OF BONDS, 1919-22, 1928--. 2 v. (1, 1 not numbered).

Title varies: Highway Bond Register.

Register of highway, bridge, road, and school bonds, showing name of purchaser, type, date, amount, and interest rate of bond, and date payable. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 133 - 300 p. 18 x 13 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 19 x 15 x 4. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Reports to Board

(See also entries 2-4, 6, 12,
13, 124[vii], 409, 411, 431)

31. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON FEES AND SALARIES, 1879-1919. 2 v.
1920-- in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Copies of reports on fees of justice of peace, sheriff, and witnesses; includes reports on jail expenses, showing date, amounts, and purposes of expenditures, and signatures of committee members. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 15 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

32. JAIL AND JAIL ACCOUNTS, 1879-1919. 1 v. 1920-- in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Copies of reports of committee on jail and jail accounts made to board of supervisors, showing amounts and purposes of expenditures, number of prisoners; date of each account, and remarks. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 17 x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

33. ACCOUNTS OF OVERSEER OF POOR, 1879-1919. 4 v. 1920-- in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Copies of reports of overseer of dependent poor, showing name, birthplace, residence, and financial condition of dependent, cause of dependency, burial statistics, amount of warrants, name of payee, account of transportation expenses, and amounts paid to transients passing through county. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. 490 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

34. SUPERVISORS' REPORTS, 1918-31. 1 f.b. 1932-- in Supervisors' Records (Papers), entry 2.

Reports of township supervisors on county affairs in townships, showing amounts of expenses and appropriations for road and bridge construction, repair, and maintenance, and certificate of publication. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. $5\frac{1}{2}$ x $9\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

35. (ANNUAL STATEMENT OF FEES STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH), 1922--.
1 f.b.

Reports of state director of department of health on fees due, showing amount of fees due registrars, number of births, deaths and stillbirths, and certification. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

36. MONTHLY STATEMENT OF THE KEEPER OF THE JAIL, 1924--. 1 f.b. (1141).

Monthly statements of the jail-keeper to county clerk and board of supervisors, showing date of report, and dates, amounts, and nature of expenditures. Arr. by date of report. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

37. (DISPENSARY COMMITTEE), 1920-24. 1 f.b. Dispensary closed in 1924.

Reports of committee of board of supervisors on bills allowed to physicians and drug firms for supplies of medicinal and surgical nature. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

38. LAND BOOKS, 1836-97. 4 v. (3 not lettered, 1836-54; A, 1852-97). Title varies: Swamp Land Record. 1898-- in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Copies of reports and proceedings regarding swamp and overflowed lands, showing legal description of swamp land, date of sale, name of purchaser, and consideration per acre. Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of purchaser. Hdw. on pr. fm. 440 p. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

39. ROAD RECORD, 1854-57. 1 v.

Copies of reports on location of early roads, showing legal description of proposed route and its feasibility as a road. Arr. by date of report. Hdw. 200 p. 15 x 10 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Jury Lists

(See also entries 334, 337)

40. JURY (Lists), 1897--. 3 f.b. (1 not numbered, 1134, 1142).

Lists of persons selected for jury duty, showing date of court term, name and address of juror, dates of service, mileage, and amount of fees. Arr. by date of court term. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 14 x 4 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

II. COUNTY CLERK

Forerunner of the present county clerk was the clerk of the county commissioners' court. This court was the administrative body in Rock Island County from 1833, the date of organization of the county, to 1849.¹

1. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 175.

The Constitution of 1848 and laws of 1849 created a new judicial branch of county government presided over by the county judge and entitled the "county court," and provided for the quadrennial election of a "clerk of the county court."¹ In addition to his duties as clerk of the judicial court, the incumbent was also to act as clerk of the administrative branch of government which consisted of the county judge and two justices of the peace.² In 1856 Rock Island County adopted the township form of government necessitating the election of a board of supervisors to supplant the county court as the county administrative body.³ Accordingly, the clerk of the county court became ex-officio clerk of the board of supervisors.⁴

The above-mentioned clerks all performed the duties of county clerk as well as those of clerks of a judicial or administrative body. In fact, legislation frequently referred to these incumbents as "county clerks" when defining duties relating to county business as distinct from duties as clerks of judicial or administrative bodies. The Constitution of 1870 specifically provided for a county clerk⁵ who has continued to act to the present in this capacity, and also as clerk of the county board⁶ and clerk of the county court.⁷ The revised statutes of 1874 adopted the use of a distinction of titles for each of his ex-officio capacities, applying the title "county clerk" only when referring to his duties as such.⁸ It is the performance of these duties that gives rise to the records dealt with in this section.

The clerk was an appointee of the county commissioners' court in Rock Island County from 1833 to 1837.⁹ In the latter year the office became elective with a four-year term;¹⁰ a two-year term became effective in 1847.¹¹ A bond of \$1,000 was set.¹² The clerk of the county court served for a four-year term and was bonded in the sum of \$3,000.¹³ The Constitution of 1870 and the revised statutes of 1874, establishing the office of county clerk, provided for his election for a quadrennial term,

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1. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18,19; L.1849, p. 62,63.
 2. L.1849, p. 65,66.
 3. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1851, p. 38,45,50.
 4. L.1851, p. 52; L.1861, p. 237.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18 and Art. X, sec. 8.
 6. R.S.1874, p. 322.
 7. Ibid., p. 260.
 8. Ibid., p. 260,322.
 9. L.1819, p. 175.
 10. R.L.1837, p. 49.
 11. L.1845, p. 28. Effective in 1847.
 12. L.1819, p. 176,177; R.L.1833, p. 143; R.S.1845, p. 131
 13. L.1849, p. 63,64.

County Clerk

and that the amount of his bond be set by the county board.¹ The bond is entered upon the records of his office, and deposited with the clerk of the circuit court. He is required to take oath, and is commissioned by the Governor.² The county seal is kept by the clerk and is used by him when required.

In general, the county clerk's performance of his functions results in records relating to the following: taxation, vital statistics, licenses, and bonds. Various officials and agencies having authority over these matters report to, or deposit records with, the county clerk who in this manner acts as a coordinating factor in the execution of local and state affairs. In regard to other of these matters, the clerk is required to perform duties on his own behalf and retain the records resulting from such performance.

Illustrations of both of these procedures may be found by examining the various duties and records relating to taxation. It is the duty of the county clerk to procure all books and blanks used in the assessment and collection of taxes, and to list in such books the lands and lots subject to taxation.³ These books are then turned over to the supervisor of assessments who has the township assessors enter the valuations against each piece of property listed. The supervisor completes revisions and corrections upon complaint of property owners and returns the books in duplicate to the county clerk.⁴ Personal property assessments are handled in essentially the same manner. The board of review then makes adjustments on complaints and equalizes assessments between districts, certifying corrections and revisions to the county clerk.⁵ The county clerk then reports the entire assessment list to the State Tax Commission for equalization, the equalized list then being used by the county clerk in ascertaining tax rates and extending taxes.⁶

1. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 321.

2. R.S.1874, p. 321.

3. L.1867, p. 106; L.1871-72, p. 19,20,32; L.1903, p. 297. During the period of the first constitution such books and lists were prepared by the auditor of public accounts and turned over to the clerk of the county commissioners' court (L.1825, p. 173; R.L.1827, p. 329; L.1839, p. 3,4; L.1847, p. 79).

4. The first assessment officer was the county treasurer (R.L.1827, p. 328-36). In 1839 this function was performed by the district assessors, who received from the county clerk copies of the auditor's transcripts (L.1839, p. 3,4). The treasurer resumed these duties in 1844 (L.1843, p. 231), retaining them until the institution of township organization in 1857 resulted in township assessors acting in each township (L.1851, p. 38). The treasurer now acts as ex-officio supervisor of assessments (L.1898, p. 36-44).

5. L.1898, p. 36-44.

6. L.1919, p. 723.

County Clerk

The State Tax Commission also certifies to the county clerk the assessments on the capital stock of corporations and railroad and telegraph companies, it being the duty of the clerk to extend these taxes and retain the books after use by the collector.¹

The books are next turned over to the county collector who, after collection, returns lists of collections, together with lists of uncollected real and personal property taxes.² The county clerk attends all tax sales, prepares a list of all sales and issues duplicate reports thereof, records affidavits of purchases of property for taxes, and keeps a record known as the "tax judgment, sale, redemption, and forfeiture record."³

An extensive group of vital statistics records is kept by the county clerk, including records relating to births and deaths, marriages, physicians, and midwives. The first legislation in regard to the keeping of vital statistics was included in the act for the establishment of medical societies.⁴ One section of this act made it the duty of every physician to keep a record of births, deaths, and diseases occurring within the vicinity of his practice, and to transmit such record to his medical society, whereupon the record was to be published in the newspapers. In 1842 it was provided that a parent could appear before the clerk of the county commissioners' court and make affidavit as to the birth of a child, and the eldest next of kin of a deceased person could similarly appear and make affidavit as to death.⁵ It is probable that the tenor of the above-mentioned laws explains the fact that no birth or death records exist in Rock Island County prior to 1877, the first law, 1819, requiring no public record to be kept, and the 1842 law providing that affidavits "may" be made. The act of 1877 creating the State Board of Health required that all births and deaths in the county be reported to the county clerk by the attending physicians or accoucheurs.⁶ Teeth were put into this and subsequent laws by providing penalties for noncompliance. In 1901 death certificates issued by physicians, midwives, or coroners were to be presented to town clerks who issued burial permits and forwarded the certificates to the county clerk.⁷ In 1903 certificates of death were to be turned over to the State Board of Health, which board, in turn, delivered to the county clerk all certificates so received.⁸ In 1915 it was provided that for the registration of all births, stillbirths, and deaths outside any city, village, or incorporated town, the township clerks should deposit a complete set of such rec-

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1. L.1871-72, p. 11,13,16; L.1937, p. 1011,1012.
 2. L.1849, p. 124,125; L.1871-72, p. 55; L.1931, p. 759.
 3. L.1838, p. 3; L.1871-72, p. 40; L.1879, p. 250.
 4. L.1819, p. 233.
 5. L.1842-43, p. 210-12.
 6. L.1877, p. 209.
 7. L.1901, p. 302,303.
 8. L.1903, p. 315-18.

County Clerk

ords with the county clerk who was charged with the binding and indexing, or recording, and safe-keeping of such records.¹ From the earliest date, the legislation in regard to these matters provided that the clerk retain the abstracts and certificates, keep a record of births and deaths, maintain alphabetical indexes, and issue certified copies of certificates upon request. The clerk has also been required to prepare a register of all physicians and accoucheurs in the county.²

Since the organization of Rock Island County in 1833 the county clerk, or clerk of the county commissioners' court, has been required to file marriage certificates and certificates of parents' consent to the marriage of minors.³ The clerk was also required to keep a separate register of marriages in addition to his file of certificates.⁴ Before 1877 persons desiring to marry were required to secure licenses from the county clerk only when they had not previously published such intention, but in that year the securing of a license was made mandatory.⁵ Although a record of applications for marriage licenses has been kept by the clerk in this county since 1847, an act of 1937 appears to be the first legislation requiring the maintenance of such a record.⁶ The same act provides that persons desiring to marry shall present to the county clerk a certificate setting forth that such persons are free from venereal diseases, such certificates to be filed with the application for license to marry.⁷ Indexes to marriage records have been kept in Rock Island County since its organization in 1833.

The county clerk is charged with a number of duties relating to elections, such as preparing and issuing blank ballots,⁸ poll books,⁹ and certificates of election,¹⁰ and keeping a record of registers of elections,¹¹ petitions,¹² and marked ballots,¹³ tally sheets,¹⁴ and election returns which are transmitted to him by the judges of election.¹⁵ Abstracts of returns were formerly prepared by the clerk, but these are now originated by the election commissioners or judges of election and deposited with the clerk. Returned ballots are destroyed by the clerk six months after election,

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1. L.1915, p. 660.
 2. L.1877, p. 209.
 3. L.1819, p. 27; R.S.1845, p. 354; R.S.1874, p. 694.
 4. R.L.1827, p. 289.
 5. L.1877, p. 130.
 6. L.1937, p. 909.
 7. Ibid., p. 910.
 8. L.1891, p. 113; L.1911, p. 311.
 9. L.1871-72, p. 386.
 10. L.1819, p. 96; L.1821, p. 79; L.1823, p. 64; L.1885, p. 176.
 11. L.1865, p. 59; L.1871-72, p. 386.
 12. L.1911, p. 310,311; L.1929, p. 422.
 13. L.1891, p. 118.
 14. L.1885, p. 143.
 15. L.1819, p. 86; L.1821, p. 77; L.1823, p. 64; L.1871-72, p. 389.

County Clerk

provided no contest in which the ballots are needed is in progress.¹ In 1889, when returns of elections for school trustees were made to the county clerk, he was charged with furnishing to the county superintendent of schools a list of all such trustees.² Now the clerk does not enter into the procedure, the school trustees canvassing the returns and certifying directly to the superintendent of schools.³

The bonds of a number of officials are required to be transmitted to the clerk for filing and entering in a book maintained for that purpose.⁴ Justices' of the peace and constables' oaths, bonds, and securities are approved by the clerk and entered in a separate book in accordance with statutory requirement. This book shows the date on which each justice of the peace and constable was sworn into office and the date of commission by the Governor. Resignations from these offices are made to the county clerk who enters such fact in the justices' and constables' record.⁵

The clerk is also charged with issuing licenses to taverns,⁶ ferries,⁷ et cetera, and keeping records of the same. Other records kept are: those relating to estrays;⁸ registers of professionals, including physicians,⁹ midwives,¹⁰ dentists,¹¹ chiropodists,¹² and veterinarians;¹³ list of county officers; list of town officers which is furnished annually by the town clerk;¹⁴ record of notaries public;¹⁵ and book of state civil service rules.¹⁶ Referring to his list of town officers, the county clerk reports annually to the State Department of Public Health the names and addresses of the supervisor, assessor, and clerk of each township, and the dates of the expiration of their terms of office.¹⁷

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1. L.1917, p. 444.
 2. L.1889, p. 271,322.
 3. L.1909, p. 352.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 396,397; L.1861, p. 237,238; R.S.1874, p. 325; L.1895, p. 188.
 5. L.1895, p. 188.
 6. L.1819, p. 77-79; L.1933-34, Second Sp. Sess., p. 64-66.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 221; R.S.1874, p. 530.
 8. L.1819, p. 206,207; R.S.1874, p. 483.
 9. L.1877, p. 209; L.1899, p. 275; L.1923, p. 441,442.
 10. Ibid.
 11. L.1881, p. 79; L.1899, p. 273; L.1909, p. 279; L.1933, p. 711.
 12. L.1899, p. 280; L.1935, p. 995.
 13. L.1917, p. 591.
 14. L.1861, p. 226; R.S.1874, p. 1077.
 15. L.1871-72, p. 575; R.S.1874, p. 721; L.1875, p. 88.
 16. L.1905, p. 115.
 17. L.1923, p. 480.

Included in the provision that the county clerk be charged with the care and custody of all records, books, and papers appertaining to, and filed or deposited in, his office¹ are those duties as clerk of the county board, wherein he is required to record the proceedings of the board and to file all their books, records, and accounts.² The clerk is also required to keep jury lists³ and a book in which he enters details as to orders upon the treasurer. He is further required to maintain alphabetical indexes of all records and papers in his office, and to supply copies of these records or papers to any person upon request and payment of the required fee.⁴

Taxation

(See also entries 2, 26, 203, 208, 210,
211, 372-389, 423, 425, 426)

Lists of Taxable Property, Levies

41. (DOCKET OF RATES AND AMOUNTS WANTED), 1850--. In Collector's Books, entry 49.

List of tax rates and amounts wanted, showing date, total amount of assessed property in township, school district numbers, amounts of levy for each school district, and city or village, total assessed value, amount of road and bridge levy, and tax spread.

42. ASSESSOR'S BOOKS, 1884--. 259 v. (Moline and Rock Island townships, 1884-98. 15 v.
Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley, Drury, Edgington, Rural, and South Rock Island townships, 1884-98, 1900-1906, 1917, 1920, 1921, 1931--. 30 v.
Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, and South Moline townships, 1884-98, 1900-1906, 1917, 1931--. 28 v.
Moline Township, 1899-1906, 1915--. 40 v.
Rock Island Township, 1899-1906, 1915--. 40 v.
Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Edgington, Hampton, Port Byron, Rural, South Moline, South Rock Island, and Zuma townships, 1899. 16 v.
Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, and Zuma townships, 1907-14. 8 v.
Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley, Drury, Edgington, and Rural townships, 1907-14. 8 v.
Moline and South Moline townships, 1907-14. 8 v.

1. R.S.1874, p. 322.
2. L.1861, p. 239; R.S.1874, p. 322.
3. R.S.1874, p. 630.
4. Ibid., p. 321.

Rock Island and South Rock Island townships, 1907-14. 8 v.
 Andalusia, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley, Drury,
 Edgington, and Rural townships, 1915-16. 2 v.
 Black Hawk, Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Port Byron, South
 Rock Island, and Zuma townships, 1915-16. 2 v.
 South Moline Township, 1915-16, 1918, 1922-30, 1936--. 13 v.
 Hampton Township, 1915-16, 1918-30, 1936--. 16 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Canoe Creek,
 Coal Valley, Coe, Cordova, Drury, Edgington, Port Byron, Rural,
 South Rock Island, and Zuma townships, 1918. 1 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley,
 Coe, Drury, Edgington, Rural, and South Rock Island townships,
 1919. 1 v.
 Canoe Creek, Cordova, Port Byron, South Moline, and Zuma
 townships, 1919. 1 v.
 Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Port Byron, South Moline, and Zuma
 townships, 1920-21. 2 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Canoe Creek,
 Coal Valley, Coe, Cordova, Drury, and Edgington townships,
 1922-30, 1936--. 10 v.
 South Rock Island Township, 1922-30, 1936--. 10 v.). 1850-83
 in Collector's Books, entry 49.

Lists of taxable real estate, showing name of owner, legal description
 of property, assessed value, kind and amount of assessment, and total
 tax. Also contains Assessor's Books Personal, 1884-98, and a few scat-
 tered townships, 1900-1906, entry 43. Arr. by sec., twp., and range.
 No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 17 x 15 x 2½. 135 v., 1884-1916,
 co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 124 v., 1917--., co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

43. ASSESSOR'S BOOKS PERSONAL, 1899--. 256 v. (Canoe Creek, Coe,
 Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, South Moline, South Rock Island,
 and Zuma townships, 1899. 1 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley,
 Drury, Edgington, and Rural townships, 1899. 1 v.
 Rock Island Township, 1899, 1907-16, 1918-30, 1936--. 36 v.
 Moline Township, 1899, 1907-16, 1918-30, 1936--. 36 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Canoe Creek,
 Coal Valley, Coe, Cordova, Drury, Edgington, Hampton, Port
 Byron, Rural, South Moline, South Rock Island, and Zuma town-
 ships, 1920-30. 11 v. per township.
 Rock Island County, as a whole, 1931-35. 4 v.
 Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, South Moline,
 and Zuma townships, 1936--. 1 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley,
 Drury, Edgington, Rural, and South Rock Island townships,
 1936--. 1 v.).
 Entries for 1884-98, and all dates not shown above, in Asses-
 sor's Books, entry 42.

Lists of taxable personal property, showing name and address of owner,
 date, valuation and kind of property, equalized and total assessed value,
 and total tax. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm.
 300 p. 17 x 15 x 2½. 251 v., 1899-1934, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 5 v.,
 1935--., co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

44. TAX LEVIES, 1875--. 9 f.b. (17-21, 4 not numbered).
Certificates of levy for schools, roads, bridges, and municipalities, showing amount and purpose of tax, dates due, and dates of payment and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. F.b. 17-21, 1875-1920, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 4 f.b. not numbered, 1921--, co. clks.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

45. ABSTRACT OF ASSESSEMENT AND TAXES, 1875--. 5 v. (1 not numbered, 2, 3 not numbered).

Abstracts of footings of assessor's books, showing name of township, date of levy, number of improved and unimproved acres and lots, assessed valuation, and valuation as revised by supervisor of assessments and corrected by board of review. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 p. 17 x 15 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

46. RAILROAD TAX BOOKS, 1873--. 8 v. (1, 1-7).

Lists of taxable railroad and mining property, showing legal description of property, assessment value, several taxes, interest, and total amount due. Also contains Telephone and Telegraph Collection Book, 1873-1934, entry 47. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 14 x 17 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

47. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK, 1935--. 1 v. 1873-1934 in Railroad Tax Books, entry 46.

Lists of taxable property of telephone and telegraph companies, showing legal description of property, several taxes, interest, and total amount due. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 20 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

48. TAX BOOK, 1862. 1 v.

Lists of tax levies and assessments, showing name of property owner, description of property, valuation, state, county, town, school district, and road taxes, back tax, total amount due, and date of filing. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 17 x 10 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Collections, Abatement

49. COLLECTOR'S BOOKS, 1850--. 247 v. (Rock Island County, as a whole, 1850-64. 15 v.
Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Moline, Port Byron, and Zuma townships, 1865-79. 15 v.
Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley, Drury, Edgington, Rock Island, 1865-79. 15 v.
Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, and Zuma townships, 1880-1929. 50 v.
Moline, Rock Island, South Moline, and South Rock Island townships, 1880-1905. 26 v.
Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley, Drury, Edgington, and Rural townships, 1880-1929. 50 v.
Moline and South Moline townships, 1906-29. 24 v.

Rock Island and South Rock Island townships, 1906-29. 24 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley,
 Drury, Edgington, Rural, and South Rock Island townships,
 1930-34. 5 v.
 Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, South Moline,
 and Zuma townships, 1930-34. 5 v.
 Moline Township, 1930--. 7 v.
 Rock Island Township, 1930--. 7 v.
 Andalusia, Black Hawk, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Coal Valley,
 Drury, Edgington, Rural, and South Rock Island townships, 1935--.
 2 v.
 Canoe Creek, Coe, Cordova, Hampton, Port Byron, South Moline,
 and Zuma townships, 1935--. 2 v.).

Record of taxable real estate, showing name and address of person assessed, location and description of property, kind and amount of each tax, total amount due, date and amount of payment, and name of payee. Also contains (Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted), entry 41; Assessor's Books, 1850-83, entry 42; and Collector's Book, Personal, 1850-1914, entry 50. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 - 600 p. 15 x 16 x 3 - 16 x 11 x 4. 239 v., 1850-1934, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 8 v., 1935--., treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

50. COLLECTOR'S BOOK, PERSONAL, 1915--. 80 v. (Moline Township, 32 v.; Rock Island Township, 32 v.; all other townships grouped, 16 v.). 1850-1914 in Collector's Books, entry 49.

Lists of taxable personal property, showing name and address of owner, assessed value of property, kind and amount of tax, total tax, date and amount of payment, and name of payer. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 650 p. 16 x 15 x 3. 71 v., 1915-33, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 3 v., 1934, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 6 v., 1935--., treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

51. (COLLECTOR'S REPORTS), 1892--. 1 f.b. (1061).

Reports to clerk by county collector of partial and final settlement of state taxes with state auditor, showing amounts of tax collections and delinquencies, divisions of tax revenue, affidavit of collector, and date of report. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. 10 x 4 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture

52. TAX SALE INDEX, LOTS (and Lands), 1839--. 6 v.

Index to Tax Deed Affidavits, entry 53; Tax Sale Certificates, entry 55; Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 58, and Blotter of Tax Sales, entry 62, showing legal description of property, dates of sale and forfeiture or redemption, amounts of tax and delinquency, assessed value of property, book and page of record, and file box number. Arr. alph. by name of addition. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 12 x 18 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

53. TAX DEED AFFIDAVITS, 1851--. 6 f.b. (13, 14, 1851-96; 11-13, 1 not numbered, 1882--).

Affidavits made by purchasers of lands at tax sales, certificates of publication, and applications for tax deeds. Also contains Tax Sale Certificates, 1851-80, entry 55. Arr. by date of affidavit. For index, see entry 52. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. F.b. 13, 14, 1851-96, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; f.b. 11-13, 1 not numbered, 1882--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

54. TAX AFFIDAVITS RECORD, 1858--. 7 v. (1 not numbered, 1-6).

Last entry 1934. Title varies: Record of Tax Sales.

Copies of affidavits made by purchasers of lands at tax sales, showing legal description of land, date of sale, name of purchaser, date and amount of payment, and period of redemption. V. 1-6 contain photostatic copies, 1872--, of original affidavits in Tax Deed Affidavits, entry 53. Arr. by date of sale. Indexed alph. by name of twp. 1858-71, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1872--, photostated. 430 - 640 p. 15 x 14 x 3 - 18 x 14 x 3. 1 v. not numbered, 1858-71, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 1-6, 1872--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

55. TAX SALE CERTIFICATES, 1881--. 22 f.b. (8, 25-27, 48-65).

1851-80 in Tax Deed Affidavits, entry 53.

Tax sale certificates of purchase with attestation by county clerk, countersigned by county collector, showing names of purchaser, clerk, and collector, legal description of property, and date and amount of sale. Arr. by date of sale. For index, see entry 52. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. F.b. 8, 25-27, 1881-1918, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; f.b. 48-65, 1919--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

56. TAX SALE RECEIPTS, 1917--. 2 f.b.

Duplicate receipts for payment of taxes redeeming property from tax sales, showing name of person paying taxes, name of property owner, legal description of property, assessment value, amounts of tax, interest, and penalties, date of payment, and signature of collector. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. 1 f.b., 1917-33, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 f.b., 1934--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

57. FORFEITURE TAX RECEIPTS, 1920--. 1 f.b.

Duplicate receipts for payment of taxes redeeming property from forfeiture, showing name of taxpayer, legal description of property, forfeiture date, amounts of tax, interest, and penalties, date of payment, and signature of collector. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

58. TAX JUDGMENT, SALE, REDEMPTION, AND FORFEITURE RECORD, 1839--.

91 v. (1-51, 52A, 52B, 53A, 53B, 54A, 54B, 55A, 55B, 56A, 56B, 57A, 57B, 58A, 58B, 59A, 59B, 60A, 60B, 61A, 61B, 62A, 62B, 62C, 62D, 63A, 63B, 63C, 63D, 64A, 64B, 64C, 64D, 65A, 65B, 65C, 65D, 65E, 66C, 66D, 66E).

Tax judgment, sale, and redemption record showing legal description of property, kind of tax, amounts of interest, costs, judgment, sale, and redemption, names of owner, purchaser, and redeemer, and dates of judgment,

sale, and redemption. Also contains Forfeiture Record, 1839-73, 1904--, entry 59, and (Tax Assessment and Sales Record), 1878--, entry 60. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. For index, see entry 52. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 - 480 p. 14 x 9 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 18 x 13 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

59. FORFEITURE RECORD, 1874-1903. 3 v. (1 not numbered, 3, 4). Title varies: Record of Forfeited Land. 1839-73, 1904-- in Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 58.

Lists of lands and lots not sold for want of bidders and thereby forfeited to state, showing name of property owner, legal description of property, several taxes, interest, and total taxes. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 480 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. 1 v. not numbered, 1874-78, v. 4, 1890-1903, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; v. 3, 1879-89, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

60. (TAX ASSESSMENT AND SALES RECORD), 1861-77. 6 v. 1878-- in Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 58. Record of tax assessments and sales, showing legal description of property, names of owner and purchaser, tax spread, and amounts of delinquency, judgment, and costs. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

61. WITHDRAWALS FROM TAX SALES, 1928-32. 3 v. Lists of property delinquent in special assessments withdrawn from sale upon payment of tax, showing names of owner and payer, amount of delinquent tax, legal description of property, date of assessment, warrant and installment numbers, amount of interest and costs, and date of payment. Arr. by date of payment. Indexed alph. by name of township. Typed on pr. fm. 170 p. 17 x 16 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

62. BLOTTER OF TAX SALES, 1873-1929. 4 v. Lists of lands and lots sold for taxes, showing purchaser's name, legal description of land, amounts of tax, costs, interest, and total due, and date of sale. Arr. by date of sale. For index, see entry 52. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1873-97, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 3 v., 1898-1929, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Maps and Plats -

Miscellaneous Papers

63. (MAPS AND PLATS), 1837--. 2 f.b. (1 not numbered, 1050). Plats of towns, railroads, and roads, maps and plans for county jail, plats of school districts, and bridge contracts. Subsequent to 1886 contains only maps and plats of school districts, used for taxation purposes. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hand-drawn and printed. 10 x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

64. (SCHOOL MAPS, CERTIFICATES), 1896--. 1 f.b. (1060).

Maps of township school districts and state-aid roads; copies of reports of school district changes; lists of taxable persons in school districts, and copies of certificates of good moral character of applicants for admission to the bar. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hand-drawn, hdw., and hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

65. MISCELLANEOUS TAX PAPERS, 1907--. 2 f.b.

Copies of ordinances providing for the issuance of bonds and changes in school districts, certificates of rate equalization, assessment lists of capital stock, and railroad assessment lists. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

66. SCHOOL PLATS, 1867-78. 1 v. 1833-66 in Surveyor's Record, entry 422.

Original plats of school districts used for taxation purposes, showing boundaries, rivers, creeks, bridges, roads, and population in each district. Arr. by school district no. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. on pr. fm. 120 p. 10 x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Vital Statistics

Births (See also entries
35, 120, 121)

67. INDEX TO CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH, 1877--. 8 v. (A-D, 1877-1921; 1-4, 1877--). Title varies: Index to Births.

Index to (Birth Certificates), entry 68, and Births (Register), entry 69, showing year, certificate number, names of child and parents, book and page of entry, and file box numbers. Volumes A-D have been transcribed into volumes 1-4. Arr. alph. by name of child. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

68. (BIRTH CERTIFICATES), 1877--. 37 f.b., 25 v.

Certificates of births, showing certificate number, date of birth, sex of child, number of other children, names of child, parents, and physician or midwife, residence, color, ages, birthplaces, and occupations of parents, and date of filing. Subsequent to 1921, certificates bound in loose-leaf form. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 67. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 10 x 5 x 15; v. 1000 p. 7 x 9 x 5. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

69. BIRTHS (Register), 1877-1921. 19 v. (1-19). Title varies: Birth Report Records.

Register of births, showing name, sex, and color of child, number of children in family, date and place of birth, names of parents and doctor or midwife, and date of birth report. Arr. by date of birth report. For index, see entry 67. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 638 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

70. OLD BIRTH RECORDS, 1861-1933. 1 v.

Copies of birth certificates of persons previously unregistered, showing name, age, address, color, sex of individual, dates of birth and certificate, names, occupation, and birthplaces of parents, and certificate number. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 1000 p. 7 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Deaths (See also entries 35, 120, 121)

71. INDEX TO CERTIFICATES OF DEATH, 1877--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Index to Deaths (Certificates), entry 72, and Deaths (Register), entry 73, showing name of deceased, date of death, record book and page of entry, and file box and certificate numbers. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 19 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

72. DEATHS (Certificates), 1877--. 26 f.b. (38-63); 19 v.

Certificates of deaths, showing date of certificate, names of deceased, physician, parents, and undertaker, date, place, and cause of death, last residence, marital status, age, sex, color, occupation, and place of birth of deceased. Subsequent to 1919, certificates bound in loose-leaf form. Arr. by date of certificate. For index, see entry 71. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 10 x 5 x 15; v. 600 p. 7 x 9 x 5. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

73. DEATHS (Register), 1877-1919. 12 v. (1-12). Discontinued.

Title varies: Death Records.

Register of death certificates, showing certificate number, names of deceased, physician, and undertaker, last residence, sex, color, and age of deceased, date, place, and cause of death, and date and place of burial. Arr. by certificate no. For index, see entry 71. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 7 x 9 x 5. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

74. (RECORD OF BURIAL PLACES OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS), 1932--. 1 v.

Undertaker's certificates of burial of soldiers and sailors, showing date of death, date and place of burial, and length of military or naval service. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 135 p. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Marriages

75. INDEX TO MARRIAGES, 1833--. 14 v. (1-3 male, 1-3 female, 1833-1935; 2-4 male, 2-4 female, 1897-1920; 2 not numbered, male and female, 1936--).

Index to Marriages (Licenses and Applications), entry 76; (Marriage Licenses), entry 77; Application for Marriage License, entry 78; Marriage Register, entry 79; Register of Marriages (Copies of Marriage Certificates), entry 80, and Marriage Returns, entry 81, showing names of male and female, date of marriage, application, license, and certificate numbers, book and page of record, and file box number. Volumes 2-4, 1897-1920, have been copied into volumes 1-3, 1833-1935. Arr. alph. by names of male and female. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 - 415 p. 14 x 12 x 2 - 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

76. MARRIAGES (Licenses and Applications), 1936--. 5 v. (M-Q). Original marriage licenses and applications, showing dates and numbers of license and application, names of bride, groom, parents, witnesses, and officiating person, dates of birth, residences of applicants, and date of return. Bound loose-leaf (Marriage Licenses), entry 77, and Application for Marriage License, entry 78, formerly kept separately. Arr. by application no. For index, see entry 75. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 10 x 11 x 6. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

77. (MARRIAGE LICENSES), 1833-1935. 82 f.b. (48-129). 1936-- in (bound form) Marriages (Licenses and Applications), entry 76. Original marriage licenses, showing date and number of license, names of bride, groom, and parents, residences, occupations, ages, and birthplaces of bride and groom, place and date of marriage, signatures of witnesses, certificate of officiating person, and date of return. Arr. by license no. For index, see entry 75. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

78. APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE, 1847-1935. 5 f.b., 57 v. (1-57). 1936-- in (bound form) Marriages (Licenses and Applications), entry 76. Applications for marriage licenses with affidavits of minors' ages, showing number and date of application, names, addresses, ages, oaths, and dates and places of birth of applicants, name of county clerk, and consent of parents for minors. Arr. by application no. For index, see entry 75. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 10 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24; v. 450 p. 18 x 14 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

79. MARRIAGE REGISTER, 1833--. 11 v. (A, C-L). Title varies: Marriage Record. Register of marriages, showing date of license, names and addresses of male and female, date of marriage, name of person performing ceremony, and date of license return. Arr. by date of return. For index, see entry 75. 1833-61, hdw.; 1862-- , hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

80. REGISTER OF MARRIAGES (Copies of Marriage Certificates), 1878-1918. 8 v. (1-8). Copies of marriage certificates, showing names, residences, ages, and birthplaces of bride and groom, names of parents, place and date of marriage, name of officiating person, and dates of certificate and license return. Arr. by date of certificate. For index, see entry 75. Hdw. on pr. fm. 630 p. 18 x 14 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. 1-4, 1878-1908, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 5-8, 1909-18, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

81. MARRIAGE RETURNS, 1878-82. 1 f.b. Supplemental forms of marriage license returns, showing names of bride, groom, witnesses, and officiating person, date and number of license, date of return, and place and date of marriage. Arr. by license no. For index, see entry 75. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Census

82. CENSUS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, 1860, 1865, 1870, 1880.

5 v. (3 not numbered, 1860, 1865, 1870; 1, 2, 1880).

Census of inhabitants and industrial statistics of Rock Island County, showing value of real and personal property, products of industry, names of property owners and heads of families, number of children and school children, and age, color, sex, and nativity of each. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 690 p. 14 x 19 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Licenses and Registers
(See also entry 5)

Registers of Officers

83. (COUNTY OFFICERS), 1857--. 1 f.b. (1135).

Lists of elected county officers, showing name of office, name and address of officer, date of election, length of term, date of bond, and qualifications. Arr. by date of election. No index. Hdw. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

84. LIST OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS, 1907--. 2 f.b. (12, 1 not numbered).

List of township officers elected at annual town meetings and certified by township clerk, showing name and address of official, title of office, dates of election and filing, and address of official. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x 24. F.b. 12, 1907-20, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 f.b. not numbered, 1921--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

85. REGISTER OF COUNTY OFFICERS, 1839--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Register of county officers, showing name and address of officer, title of office, amount and date of bond, names of sureties, term of office, date of election, and remarks. Also contains Qualifications of County Officers, 1867--, entry 86. Arr. by date of election. Indexed alph. by name of official. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 17 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

86. QUALIFICATIONS OF COUNTY OFFICERS, 1839-66. 1 v. 1867-- in Register of County Officers, entry 85.

Lists of qualifications of county officers, showing dates of oath and qualifications, names of bondsmen, and date of resignation or expiration of term of office. Arr. by date of oath. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 150 p. 14 x 10 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Professional Licenses
and Registers

87. RECORD OF PHYSICIANS' CERTIFICATES, 1877--. 4 v. (A-C, 1 not lettered). Title varies: Record State Certificates. Copies of certificates of physicians, surgeons, dentists, chiropodists, nurses, and osteopaths, showing certificate number, school of graduation, date and grade of diploma, name, residence, and nativity of practitioner, and date of certificate. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of practitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
88. REGISTER OF PHYSICIANS AND ACCOUCHEURS, 1877--. 1 v. Register of physicians and accoucheurs, showing date, name, nativity, education, and residence of physician or accoucheur, date of diploma, and number of years in practice in Illinois. Arr. alph. by name of practitioner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
89. DENTAL RECORD, 1895--. 2 v. (1,2). Last entry 1921. Copies of dental certificates showing name, address, nativity, and education of dentist, and dates of diploma, issuance of certificate, and filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of dentist. Hdw. on pr. fm. 315 p. 18 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
90. DENTAL REGISTER, 1886--. 1 v. (1). Last entry 1933. Register of dentists, showing name, age, and address of dentist, date of certificate, and personal and educational statistics. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of dentist. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 160 p. 18 x 11 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
91. REGISTER OF ARCHITECTS, 1897--. 2 v. (1,1 not numbered). Last entry 1919. Copies of certificates issued to architects by state department, showing name, nativity, and education of architect, and dates of diploma and certificate. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of architect. Hdw. on pr. fm. 160 p. 16 x 11 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
92. RECORD OF CERTIFICATES VETERINARY SURGEONS, 1899--. 1 v. (1). Copies of certificates of veterinary surgeons, showing date of certificate, name, address, and nativity of veterinarian, degree of diploma, and school of education. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of surgeon. Hdw. on pr. fm. 142 p. 15 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
93. REGISTER CERTIFICATES OF NURSES, 1909--. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 2). Last entry 1919. Register of nurses' certificates, showing names of nurse and training hospital, degree of training, residence and age of nurse, and dates of certificate and registration. Arr. by date of registration. Indexed alph. by name of nurse. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 134 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

94. OPTOMETRY RECORD, 1915--. 1 v. (1).

Copies of optometry certificates, showing name and address of optometrist, number of certificate, and date of filing. Arr. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of optometrist. Hdw. on pr. fm. 292 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Patents

95. PATENT RECORD, 1868-73. 1 v. Now kept by United States Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Record of patents issued on inventions, showing name of patentee, description of invention, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of patentee. Hdw. on pr. fm. 650 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Militia Roll (See also entry 124[ii])

96. MILITARY RECORD, 1861-65. 1 v.

Roster and record of soldiers enlisted during Civil War from Rock Island County, showing name, age, residence, and rank of soldier, record of military service, and dates and places of enlistment and discharge; includes obituaries of soldiers killed in action and record of appropriations for war purposes. Arr. alph. by name of soldier. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 338 p. 20 x 14 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

97. MILITARY ROLL RECORD, 1861-62. 1 v.

List of soldiers enrolled in the militia, showing name, address, and rank of soldier. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

98. DESCRIPTIVE BOOK, 1861. 1 v.

Personal descriptions of soldiers and officers of the 69th United States Infantry Regiment, Illinois, showing rank, birthplace, and physical description of soldier or officer, date and place of enlistment, and date of discharge. Arr. alph. by name of soldier. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 140 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

99. REGIMENTAL ORDER BOOK, 1862. 1 v.

Copies and original regimental orders of the 69th Regiment, United States Army, at Camp Douglas, showing date, purpose, and amount of each order, name of payee, and signature of requisitioning officer. Arr. by date of order. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 16 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Stallion Certificates (See also
entry 156)

100. RECORD OF CERTIFICATES STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, 1882-1906.
1 v.

Copies of stallion certificates, showing names of owner and stallion, pedigree, terms on which stallion is advertised for service, registration number, and date of certificate. Arr. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Estrays, Marks and Brands

101. (ESTRAY PAPERS), 1833-97. 1 f.b. 1898-1915 in (Drury Drainage District and Miscellaneous), entry 424.

Original estray papers containing affidavits of parties taking up stock, and reports of appraisers appointed by justices of peace. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., and hdw. on pr. fm. $10 \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times 24$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

102. ESTRAY NOTICES, 1863-1925. 2 v.

Copies of legal notices of estrays, showing name and address of party taking up stock, description of animal, date, and remarks. Subsequent to 1898, this record consists of printed clippings cut from newspapers and pasted in volume. Arr. by date of notice. No index. 1863-97, hdw.; 1898-1925, printed. 100 p. $11 \times 12 \times 1$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

103. RECORD OF MARKS AND BRANDS, 1878--. 2 v.

Owner's registration of marks and brands for livestock, beverages, and commercial and industrial products, showing date, classification, description of mark or brand, and registration number. Arr. by registration no. No index. Hdw. 300 p. $18 \times 12 \times 2$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Tavern Licenses

104. (APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR, DANCE HALL, AND ROAD HOUSE LICENSES), 1926--. 1 f.b. (1138).

Applications for dance hall and road house licenses, showing name and address of applicant, license fee and number, approval date, amount of bond, and names of sureties; includes applications for liquor licenses, 1933--. Arr. by date of application. No index. $10 \times 5 \times 15$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

105. RECORD OF LIQUOR LICENSES, 1873-76. 1 v. 1877-- in Supervisors' Records, entry 3.

Copies of liquor licenses issued by county clerk, showing rates for selling intoxicating liquors, name and residence of licensee, period of license, amount of fee, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of licensee. Hdw. on pr. fm. $500 \text{ p. } 14 \times 10\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Shanty Boat License

106. SHANTY BOAT LICENSE RECORD, 1900-1905. 1 v.

Copies of licenses issued to people living in boats, showing name, dates of issue, and expiration, purpose and location of boat, and amount of fee. Arr. by date of issue. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $75 \text{ p. } 8 \times 14 \times \frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Elections
(See also entries 7, 124[v])

107. ELECTION PETITIONS, 1918--. 2 f.b. (43,44); 1 bdl.
Election petitions showing names of candidate and office, party affiliation, signatures and addresses of petitioners, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. F.b. 10 x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 24; bdl. 5 x 12 x 10. F.b. 43, 44, 1918-30, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; bdl., 1931--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Bonds of Officers
(See also entries. 2, 339, 340, 351)

108. BONDS OF JUSTICE OF PEACE, ASSESSORS' AND POLICE MAGISTRATES' BONDS, 1839--. 6 f.b. (6-10, 14).
Original bonds of all town officials, justices of peace, assessors, and police magistrates, showing date, amount, and conditions of bond, names of principal and sureties, and dates of approval and filing; includes some bonds of administrators, guardians, and executors, 1839-97. Also contains (County Officials' Bonds), 1839-81, entry 109. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 - 10 x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. F.b. 6, 7, 1839-97, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; f.b. 8-10, 14, 1898--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

109. (COUNTY OFFICIALS' BONDS), 1882--. 1 f.b. 1839-81 in Bonds of Justice of Peace, Assessors' and Police Magistrates' Bonds, entry 108.
Bonds of sheriff, county collector, county treasurer, superintendent of schools, coroner, and juvenile probation officer, showing date, amount and obligation of bond, names of principal and sureties, and dates of approval and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

110. (TOWN COLLECTORS' BONDS), 1882-1917. 1 f.b.
Township collectors' bonds showing names of principal and sureties, amount, conditions, and terms of bond, and dates of approval and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

111. MISCELLANEOUS BOND RECORD, 1930--. 1 v. (6).
Copies of miscellaneous bonds, including bonds of police magistrates, showing names of sureties and principal, amount and conditions of bond, and dates of bond and filing. Also contains Record of Justice and Constable Bonds, entry 112; Highway Treasurer's Bond Record, entry 113; and Assessors' Bond Record, entry 114. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of principal. 1930-31, typed on pr. fm.; 1932--, photostat. 394 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

112. RECORD OF JUSTICE AND CONSTABLE BONDS, 1881-1929. 3 v. (A, A, B).
Title varies: Record of Justice's Bond; Record of Constable's
Bond. 1930-- in Miscellaneous Bond Record, entry 111.

Copies of bonds of justices and constables, showing names of principal, sureties, and township, and date, amount, and conditions of bond. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of official. Hdw. on pr. fm. 690 p. 19 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

113. HIGHWAY TREASURER'S BOND RECORD, 1914-29. 1 v. 1930-- in
Miscellaneous Bond Record, entry 111.

Copies of bonds of treasurers of road and bridge funds of several townships, showing date, amount, and conditions of bond, names of principal and sureties, and dates of approval and filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. on pr. fm. 293 p. $13\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

114. ASSESSORS' BOND RECORD, 1899-1929. 1 v. 1930-- in Miscellaneous Bond Record, entry 111.

Copies of township assessors' bonds, showing names of principal and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, and dates of filing and approval. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. on pr. fm. 316 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

115. RECORD OF SURETY COMPANIES, 1903-9. 1 v.

Record of surety companies bonding county officials, showing names and addresses of local representatives, dates of power of attorney, expiration, and revocation date of power, and dates of renewals of powers of attorney. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 19 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Oaths of County Officers
(See also entry 124[vi])

116. (DEPUTY OATHS), 1884--. 2 f.b. (1107, 1108).

Oaths of deputy and special deputy sheriffs, showing name of officer, and dates of approval and filing for record. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Civil Service Rules

117. RULES AND REGULATIONS ILLINOIS STATE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, 1914-22. 1 v.

Rules and regulations of civil service commission, showing name and date of examination, ratings, appointments, regulations, and rules required for service. Arr. by date of examination. No index. 1914-20, hdw.; 1921-22, printed. Binding pcor. 100 p. $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Fees, Receipts and Expenditures

118. COUNTY CLERK'S REGISTER OF FEES, 1888--. 7 v.

Register of fees received by county clerk, showing names of payer and payee, purpose, and amount and date of payment. Also contains Cash Book and Fee Register, entry 294. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 14 x 13 x 1½. 5 v., 1888-1928, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 2 v., 1929--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

119. CASH, 1897--. 6 v.

Daily account book of county funds, showing dates of receipts and disbursements, and cash balance in each fund. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. 400 p. 14 x 10½ x 2½. 1 v., 1897-1903, 2 v., 1923--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 3 v., 1904-22, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

120. MONTHLY REPORT CARD TO COUNTY CLERK, 1922--. 2 f.b. (45, 1 not numbered).

Registrars' monthly reports to county clerk, showing number of births, stillbirths, and deaths, registration district number, date of report, and name and address of local registrar. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 6½ x 10 x 24. F.b. 45, 1922-34, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 f.b. not numbered, 1935--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

121. COUNTY CLERK'S ACCOUNT WITH PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH OFFICERS, 1902-15. 2 v. (1, 2).

Register of payments to physicians for reports of births and deaths, showing name of physician, number of births and deaths, and date and amount of payment. Arr. by date of payment. Indexed alph. by name of physician. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 15 x 11 x 2. V. 1, 1902-10, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 2, 1911-15, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

122. LEDGER, 1860-74. 1 v.

Account record of county clerk, showing names of clients, amounts and dates of fees charged and collected, and itemized daily cash transactions. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. 150 p. 14 x 10½ x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

123. PAY ROLLS, 1904--. 4 f.b. (1094, 64, 47, 1 not numbered).

Pay rolls of county officers, showing name and title of office, names and amounts of salaries of employees, date, and signature of officer. Arr. by date of pay roll. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 5 x 15. F.b. 1094, 1904-14, 1 not numbered, 1936--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; f.b. 64, 47, 1915-35, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Miscellaneous Papers

124. (COUNTY CLERK'S MISCELLANEOUS FILES), 1833--. 4 f.b. (1 not numbered, 1064, 1066, 1070).

County clerk's file of miscellaneous papers, containing:

- i. Abstracts of title to county property, showing legal description of property, consideration, names of grantor

- and grantee, and date of recording.
- ii. Civil War militia rolls, showing name, age, address, and nativity of soldier, and date of enlistment.
 - iii. Dedications of property for roads, showing name of grantor, number of acres, legal description of land, signatures of witnesses, and acknowledgment.
 - iv. Documents in bastardy cases, including warrants for arrest, bonds, subpoenas, motions, and orders and decrees of court.
 - v. Election certificates, showing date of election, name of officer, term of office, acknowledgment, and date of filing.
 - vi. Oaths of officers, showing names of officer and office, date of election, term of office, and date of filing.
 - vii. Sheriff's reports of jail expenditures, showing date of report, names of sheriff and prisoners, days of incarceration, number of meals served, and total amount of expenditures.
 - viii. Supervisors' allotment of Civil War funds, showing date and amount of allotment and signatures of supervisors.
 - ix. Widows' selections and relinquishments, showing names of widow, estate, and appraiser, list of items selected, relinquished, and allowed, appraised value, and statement of appraiser.

Arr. by date of filing. No index. Nature of recording varies. 10 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24 - 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. 1 f.b. not numbered, 1833-95, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; f.b. 1064, 1066, 1070, 1876-- , co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

III. RECORDER

The recorder of Rock Island County was originally appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate.¹ In 1833, the year in which Rock Island County was organized, the amount of his bond was \$500.² The office became elective in 1835, for a four-year term, and a bond was to be approved by the county commissioners' court.³ A two-year term became effective in 1847.⁴ With the adoption of the second constitution the office of recorder was abolished, the duties of that office being delegated to the circuit court clerk in an ex-officio capacity.⁵ The present constitution reestablished the office of recorder in counties having a population of sixty thousand or more but continued

1. R.L.1829, p. 117.

2. Ibid.

3. L.1835, p. 166.

4. L.1845, p. 28. Effective in 1847.

5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 64.

Recorder

the provision of the prior constitution for other counties.¹ The population of Rock Island County reached the minimum set by the constitution in 1910, and accordingly, a recorder was elected in 1912.² The amount of the recorder's bond was set at \$5,000 in 1872, and the county judge was to give approval.³ This amount was raised in 1874 to \$20,000 for counties having the population of Rock Island. A copy of the bond is entered upon the records of the county court.⁴

Assistants and deputies are appointed by the recorder in a number as determined by rule of the circuit court and as entered upon the court record.⁵ The compensation of the assistants and deputies is set by the county board.⁶ Written oaths of deputies are filed with the Secretary of State.⁷

In accordance with the duty of the recorder to record at length all written instruments, the following records are required to be kept:

1. An entry book in which data relating to date and order of receipt of instruments to be recorded or filed, and the names of parties and location of property, with a brief description of the premises, are entered. Each of such instruments is numbered by the recorder with the corresponding number of the entry. The entry book serves as a table of contents, with descriptive memoranda, for all instruments recorded at length or filed in the recorder's office.
2. Well-bound books for recording at length any instrument in writing entitled to be recorded, in the order of time of its reception. Separate books are allowed to be kept for the recording of different classes of instruments and two distinct series of document numbers may be used in recording documents received for recordation. One series preceded by the letter "B" is for the recordation of bills of sales of personal property, chattel mortgages, releases, extensions, and assignments thereof. The other series of document numbers is for all other instruments received for recordation.

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 833.
 2. Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, shows population of Rock Island, 70,404 in 1910, 92,297 in 1920, and 98,191 in 1930. Population Bulletin, p. 9.
 3. L.1871-72, p. 645.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 833.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9; R.S.1874, p. 833.
 6. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 7. R.S.1874, p. 833.

Recorder

3. Grantor and grantee indexes. In the grantor index are listed the names of the grantors in alphabetical order and the names of the grantees. The grantee index shows the names of the grantees in alphabetical order and the names of the grantors. Each index also shows the date of the instrument, time of receipt, kind of instrument, consideration, book and page of recordation, or the number under which it is filed, and a brief description of the premises.
4. Indexes to each book of record in which are entered in alphabetical order, the names of each grantor and grantee and page on which the instrument is recorded. This series indexes instruments such as powers of attorney, chattel mortgages, and those recorded by corporations.
5. An index to recorded maps and plats, based on location of property, sometimes arranged by section, township, and range.
6. An abstract book, in effect indexing records by showing for each tract every conveyance or incumbrance recorded, its execution and filing date, and the book and page of its recordation. Series optional with county board.
7. A separate book to record certificates of honorable discharge from military, aviation, and naval service.¹

The recorder, in recording at length any instrument in writing, is permitted to make a handwritten or typewritten transcription, a photographic or photostatic reproduction, or use a combination of these methods.² In addition to the instruments received for recordation, the recorder is required, upon receipt, to file any mortgage, trust deed, or conveyance of personal property having the effect of a mortgage or lien upon such property which is endorsed with the words, "This instrument to be filed, but not recorded." The recorder marks such instruments "filed" and enters the time of their receipt and files them in his office.³

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1. L.1819, p. 8,20,21; R.L.1828, p. 116,117; L.1847, p. 69; L.1853, p. 254; L.1867, p. 148; L.1869, p. 2; L.1871-72, p. 645,646; L.1873, p. 144; R.S.1874, p. 834-46; L.1917, p. 652; L.1925, p. 521; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
 2. L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
 3. L.1925, p. 521; L.1929, p. 592-94.

Entry Books

125. ENTRY BOOK, 1835--. 46 v. (1 not labeled, 1835-57; 4 not labeled, A-Z, 27-41, 1837--). Missing: 1858-63.

Entry book of recorded instruments, showing names of grantor and grantee, entry and instrument numbers, consideration, dates of instrument and entry, kind of instrument, and location and description of property. Also contains Chattel Mortgage Entry Book, 1835-1919, entry 126. Arr. by date of entry. 1835-80, no index; 1881--, indexed alph. by name of grantor. 1835-57, hdw.; 1864--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 - 600 p. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ - $18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. 1 v. not labeled, v. A-Z, 27-41, 1837-40, 1864--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 v. not labeled, 1835-57, 3 v. not labeled, 1841-57, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

126. CHATTEL MORTGAGE ENTRY BOOK, 1920--. 6 v. (1-6). 1835-1919 in Entry Book, entry 125.

Entry book of chattel mortgages, showing names of grantor and grantee, kind of instrument, consideration, date of entry, name of person receiving instrument subsequent to recording, and amount of fee. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by names of grantor and grantee. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 590 p. $18 \times 12 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

127. ENTRIES OF CONVEYANCES, 1871-72. 1 v.

Record of entries of conveyances of town lots in additions to towns, showing kind of instrument, legal description of land, names of grantor and grantee, and dates of entry and conveyance. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of addition. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. $18 \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 2$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Instruments Recorded

General

128. GRANTOR-GRANTEE GENERAL INDEX, 1835--. 107 v. (A, A-Z, Z, 1-25, 1, grantor; A-Z, 1, 1-26, grantee).

Index to Deed Records, entry 130; Trust Deed Record, entry 131; Release of Trust Deed, entry 132; Quitclaim Deeds, entry 133; Warranty Deeds, entry 134; Mortgage Record, entry 136; Release of Mortgage, entry 138; Assignment Mortgages, entry 139; School Mortgages, entry 140; Sale Mortgages, entry 141; and Railroad Mortgages, entry 142, showing names of grantor and grantee, consideration, rate of interest, date of maturity, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by names of grantor and grantee. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 - 550 p. $18 \times 12 \times 2 - 9\frac{1}{2} \times 19 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

129. (MISCELLANEOUS UNCALLED FOR INSTRUMENTS), 1844--. 122 f.b.

Instruments left for recording and uncalled for, including warranty deeds, administrators' deeds, deeds of vacation, letters of administration, release of mortgages, chattel mortgages, and certified copies of deeds. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 5 \times 9\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Deeds

130. DEED RECORDS, 1835--. 283 v. (A-Z, 27-47, 50-62, 64-79, 81-93, 95-103, 105-122, 124-146, 148-205, 209-216, 218-295).

Copies of all instruments not segregated by type, showing dates of instrument and recording, names and addresses of grantor and grantee, legal description and location of property, amount of consideration, date and nature of instrument, and document number. Also contains Trust Deed Record, 1835-37, entry 131; Release of Trust Deed, 1835-37, entry 132; Quitclaim Deeds, 1835-91, 1924--, entry 133; Warranty Deeds, 1835-68, 1889--, entry 134; Mortgage Record, 1835-37, entry 136; Release of Mortgage, 1835-37, entry, 138; Assignment Mortgages, 1835-37, entry 139; School Mortgages, 1835-37, entry 140; Sale Mortgages, 1835-37, entry 141; Railroad Mortgages, 1835-37, entry 142; Chattel Mortgages Record, 1835-37, entry 143; Certificate of Master's Sales, 1928--, entry 146; and Redemption from Sheriff's Sales, 1913--, entry 148. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. 1835-1909, hdw.; 1910-31, typed on pr. fm.; 1932--, photostated. 570 p. $18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

131. TRUST DEED RECORD, 1908-22. 3 v. (104, 123, 146). 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-1907, 1923-- in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of trust deeds given as additional security on payment of promissory notes, showing names of grantee and grantor, amount of notes, rate of interest, dates of instrument and recording, and conditions in case of default. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. 1908-13, hdw.; 1914-22, typed on pr. fm. 638 p. $18 \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

132. RELEASE OF TRUST DEED, 1917--. 2 v. (147, 217). 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-1916 in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of releases of trust deeds, showing names of grantor and grantee, date and entry number of release, legal description of property, consideration, and dates of release and recording. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. Typed on pr. fm. 600 p. $18 \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

133. QUITCLAIM DEEDS, 1892-1923. 4 v. (94, 206-208). 1835-91, 1924-- in Deed Records, entry 130.

Copies of quitclaim deeds, showing date of recording, names and addresses of grantor and grantee, legal description and location of property, amount and kind of consideration, dates of deed and acknowledgment, and document number. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. 1892-94, hdw.; 1895-1923, typed on pr. fm. 570 p. $18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

134. WARRANTY DEEDS, 1869-88. 4 v. (48, 49, 63, 80). 1835-68, 1889-- in Deed Records, entry 130.

Copies of warranty deeds, showing date of recording, names and addresses of grantor and grantee, description and location of property, amount of consideration, dates of deed and acknowledgment, and document number. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. Hdw. 570 p. $16\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

135. SHERIFF'S TAX DEEDS, 1862-75. 1 v.

Copies of sheriff's tax deeds, with confirming certificate of clerk of county court, showing date, legal description of property, court order, amount of consideration, and dates of deed and recording. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of grantee. Hdw. on pr. fm. 480 p. $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Mortgages - Real Property

136. MORTGAGE RECORD, 1838--. 246 v. (A-H, J-T, V-Z, 27-48, 50-55, 57-89, 91-103, 105-120, 122, 124-132, 134, 137-141, 144, 145, 148-150, 153-216, 219-265). 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130.

Copies of mortgages, including marginal releases, showing names and addresses of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of mortgage, legal description of property, consideration, rate of interest, stipulation as to payments, and dates of filing and recording. Also contains Trust Deed Record, 1838-1907, 1923--, entry 131; Release of Trust Deed, 1838-1916, entry 132; Release of Mortgage, 1838-91, entry 138; Assignment Mortgages, 1838-89, 1928--, entry 139; School Mortgages, 1838-56, 1917--, entry 140; Sale Mortgages, 1838-72, 1886--, entry 141; Railroad Mortgages, 1838-57, 1864--, entry 142; and Chattel Mortgages Record, 1838-57, entry 143. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128; for sep. index to marginal releases, 1905--, see entry 137. 1838-1900, hdw.; 1901-30, typed on pr. fm.; 1931--, photostated. 600 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

137. INDEX TO MARGINAL RELEASE, 1905--. 1 v. (1).

Index to marginal releases as recorded in Mortgage Record, entry 136, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of release, book and page of mortgage record, and type of mortgage. Arr. alph. by name of grantor. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

138. RELEASE OF MORTGAGE, 1892--. 9 v. (56, 121, 133, 135, 142, 143, 151, 152, 218). 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-91 in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of mortgage releases, showing document number, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, book and page of mortgage record, dates of filing, recording, releases, and acknowledgment, and signatures of mortgagor and notary. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. 1892-1915, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1916-33, typed on pr. fm.; 1934--, photostated. 570 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

139. ASSIGNMENT MORTGAGES, 1890-1927. 3 v. (49, 90, 136). 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-89, 1928-- in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of assignments of mortgages, showing names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property covered by assigned mortgage, consideration, rate of interest, assignment conveying title to note, unpaid balance, and date of recording. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. 1890-1905, hdw.; 1906-27, typed on pr. fm. 530 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

140. SCHOOL MORTGAGES, 1857-1916. 1 v. 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-56, 1917-- in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of mortgages given as security for loans from board of education, showing name of mortgagee, legal description and location of property, consideration, rate of interest, dates of mortgage and recording, and signatures of members of board of trustees. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. Hdw. on pr. fm. 464 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

141. SALE MORTGAGES, 1873-85. 1 v. 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-72, 1886-- in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of mortgages given to secure payment on promissory notes with stipulation that premises may be sold upon default, showing names of grantor and grantee, date and amount of note, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, rate of interest, legal description of property, and dates of mortgage and recording. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. Hdw. on pr. fm. 639 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

142. RAILROAD MORTGAGES, 1858-63. 1 v. 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-57, 1864-- in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of railroad mortgages, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, legal description of property, consideration, stipulations as to payment, rate of interest, and dates of mortgage and recording. Arr. by date of recording. For index, see entry 128. Hdw. on pr. fm. 316 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Mortgages - Chattel

143. CHATTEL MORTGAGES RECORD, 1858--. 119 v. (1-13, 15-120). 1835-37 in Deed Records, entry 130; 1838-57 in Mortgage Record, entry 136.

Copies of chattel mortgages, showing date of mortgage, names of mortgagee and mortgagor, consideration, description of goods and chattels, rate of interest, date payable, provisions for payment, acknowledgment before notary, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of mortgagee. 1858-1907, hdw.; 1908-32, typed on pr. fm.; 1933--, photostated. 640 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. V. 1-13, 15-51, 1858-1921, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 52-120, 1922--, rec.'s off., 2nd fl.

Certificates of Levy (See also entries 163, 358)

144. SHERIFF'S CERTIFICATE OF LEVY, 1844--. 2 v. (1 not lettered, L). Title varies: Attachments and Executions.

Copies of sheriff's certificates of levy, showing names of defendant, plaintiff, and attorney, dates of writ, return, judgment, and recording, purpose of levy, amount of damage, and description of property on which levy is made. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

145. CERTIFICATE OF SHERIFF'S SALE, 1857---. 2 v. (1, 2).

Copies of sheriff's certificates of sales, with fee bill to sheriff from clerk of court, showing description of property, names of plaintiff, defendant, and sheriff, amounts of judgment and sale, and dates of sale, filing, and recording. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. on pr. fm. 395 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

146. CERTIFICATE OF MASTER'S SALES, 1865-1927. 3 v. (3, 1865-1920; 4, 5, 1884-1927). 1928--- in Deed Records, entry 130.

Copies of master's certificates of sales, showing legal description of property, names of plaintiff, defendant, and master, reason for sale, amounts of judgment and sale, type of action, and dates of sale, filing, and recording. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1865-1904, hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm.; 1905-27, typed on pr. fm. 575 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

147. MASTER'S CERTIFICATE OF REDEMPTION, 1865---. 1 v. Last entry 1933.

Master's certificates of redemption, showing names of original owner, purchaser, and master, legal description of property, amounts of redemption and sale, and dates of sale, redemption, and filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 479 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

148. REDEMPTION FROM SHERIFF'S SALES, 1860-1912. 1 v. 1913--- in Deed Records, entry 130.

Copies of certificates of redemption from sheriff's sales, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sheriff, legal description of property, amount due, names of owner and purchaser, amounts of sale and redemption, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Other Instruments

149. (CARD INDEX), 1866---. 3 f.b.

Card index to Miscellaneous Certificates, entry 150, and Notice of Tax Lien, entry 153, showing name and address of certificate holder, filing date, type and number of instrument, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of certificate holder. Typed under pr. hdgs. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

150. MISCELLANEOUS CERTIFICATES, 1865---. 17 v. (1-17).

Copies of certificates of various companies, corporations, churches, and societies, showing name of organization, purpose and date of certificate, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of organization; for sep. index, 1866---, see entry 149. 1865-1901, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1902-31, typed; 1932---, photostated. 592 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

151. RECORD OF SUB-CONTRACTOR (Liens), 1913--. 1 v. (1).

Copies of liens, showing legal description of property, date, and amount of lien, date of recording, and names of property owner and contractor. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of property owner. 1913-31, typed; 1932--, photostated. 584 p. $18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 2$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

152. LIEN ON GETS, 1888. 1 v.

Copies of liens for services of stallions and jacks, showing names and addresses of owners of mare and stallion, descriptions of mare and stallion, amount of lien, and dates of service and recording. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. $18 \times 12 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

153. NOTICE OF TAX LIEN, 1934--. 1 f.b.

Notice of tax liens, showing name and address of taxpayer, amount due, description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 149. Hdw. on pr. fm. $10 \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

154. SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' DISCHARGE, 1865--. 7 v. (A, 2-7).

Copies of discharge certificates of soldiers and sailors participating in wars since Civil War, showing serial number, name of soldier or sailor, rank, organization, reason for and date of discharge, date and place of birth, age at enlistment, occupation, physical description, signature of commanding officer, service record, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 155. 1865-1923, hdw.; 1924-34, typed; 1935--, photostated. 592 p. $18 \times 15 \times 5$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

155. INDEX TO SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' DISCHARGE, 1865--. 2 v.

Index to Soldiers' and Sailors' Discharge, entry 154, showing name and age of soldier or sailor, dates of enlistment and discharge, and book and page of record. Arr. alph. by name of soldier or sailor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 490 p. $18 \times 15 \times 5$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

156. RENEWALS OF STALLION LICENSES, 1917-18. 1 v.

Copies of stallion license renewals, showing date of filing, pedigree, number, color, age, and grade of stallion, name of owner, and dates of filing and recording. Arr. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. $596 \text{ p. } 18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

157. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF FARM NAMES, 1915--. 1 f.b.

Applications for registration of farm names, showing applicant's name; legal description of farm, number of acres, address, name of farm, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $10 \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

158. REGISTER OF FARM NAMES, 1915--. 1 v.

Register of names of farms, showing names of owner and farm, number of acres, production per acre, valuation of property, and date of registration. Arr. by date of registration. Indexed alph. by name of farm. Hdw. on pr. fm. $296 \text{ p. } 18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

159. CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFER OF BANK STOCK, 1926--. 1 v. (1). Register of stock transfer certificates, showing date of certificate, names of bank, seller, and buyer, number of shares, amount, class of stock, and corporate seal of bank. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of bank. 1926-32, hdw. and typed; 1933--, photostated. 600 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

160. BAIL BOND RECORD, 1917-19. 1 v. Register of bail bonds posted in criminal cases, showing names of principal and sureties, and purpose, date, and amount of bond. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of principal. Typed under pr. hdgs. 196 p. $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

161. SPECIAL PARTNERSHIP RECORD, 1886-89. 1 v. Copies of agreements between two or more parties with legal notices of same, showing names of parties, date and articles of agreement, signatures of contracting parties, and date of recording. Arr. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 370 p. 15 x 9 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Unrecorded Instruments

162. CERTIFICATES OF SALE, 1835--. 8 f.b. Sheriff's certificates of sale and levy, and master's certificates of purchase, showing dates of proceedings and filing, nature of cause, docket number, affidavit of notice, description and location of property, amount of judgment, name of purchaser, and amount and date of sale. Arr. by date of sale. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $13\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

163. LIEN ON CHATTELS, 1921--. 1 f.b. Liens on chattels, showing date of filing, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property or goods, amount of liens, and date of payment. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 164. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $13\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

164. INDEX OF LIENS UPON CHATTELS, 1921--. 1 v. Index to Lien on Chattels, entry 163, showing names of defendant and claimant, description of property, and book and page of record. Arr. alph. by name of owner or person against whom filed. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

165. FILED CHATTEL MORTGAGES, 1934--. 3 f.b. 1836-1933 in Unrecorded Instruments, entry 166. Chattel mortgages filed but not recorded, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of instrument, amount of mortgage, mortgage numbers, name of agent, date of filing, description of property or goods, recorder's certificate, and entry number. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 12 x 4 x 23. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

166. UNRECORDED INSTRUMENTS, 1836-1933. 1 f.b.

Instruments filed but not recorded, including releases of chattel mortgages, conditional sales contracts, warranty and tax deeds, transcripts of records, and appointments. Also contains Filed Chattel Mortgages, entry 165. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

167. MASTER'S CERTIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS, 1918-31. 1 f.b.

Master's certificates of indebtedness, showing date, amount, costs, name of parties, amount of fee charged for certificate, legal description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

168. BAIL BONDS AND SCHEDULES, 1917-19. 1 f.b.

Original bail bonds and schedules of sureties' property posted in county and circuit court criminal cases and filed with recorder, showing names of principal and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, legal description of scheduled property, nature of case, case number, and dates of appearance in court and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

169. (STOCK TRANSFER CERTIFICATES), 1891-1926. 2 f.b.

Certificates of transfer of stock, showing serial number, stock issue, denomination, name of corporation, and dates of issue and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

170. CORPORATION PAPERS, 1857-87. 1 f.b.

Incorporation papers including articles of incorporation and certificates from state department, showing date of incorporation, names and addresses of officers, name, place, and purpose of incorporation, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Maps and Plats

171. PLAT BOOKS, 1838--. 23 v. (1-23).

Plats of public and private surveys, showing title of plat, boundaries of surveyed area, legal description of land, courses of streets, alleys, railroads, rivers, and streams, attestation of county surveyor, dates of approval and recording, and name and title of approving officer. Drawn by county engineer and county surveyor. Arr. by twp., sec., and range. For index, see entry 172. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 3/4 in. to 90 ft. 17 x 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

172. INDEX TO PLATS, 1838--. 1 v.

Index to Plat Books, entry 171, showing names and legal description of political subdivisions, population, elevation of land, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of plat. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

173. COAL MINES (Plats), 1916--. 1 f.b.

Original plats of coal mines in Rock Island, showing location and boundaries of district, number of coal mines, population, transportation facilities, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Blueprint. $10 \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

174. RIGHT-OF-WAY PLATS, 1932. 78 plats.

Plats of right-of-way dedications to lands in Rock Island County with conveyance to the State of Illinois for public highways. Drawn by Department of Public Works and Buildings, State Highway Division, Springfield, Illinois. Blueprint. $9\frac{1}{2} \times 15$. Rec.'s off., 2nd fl.

175. CITY OF EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS, 1929. 1 map.

Ward map of East Moline, Illinois, showing names of streets, and numbers and boundaries of lots, blocks, and wards. Drawn by R. H. Benell. Hand-drawn and colored. 1 in. to 200 ft. 4 ft. x 5 ft. 7 in. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

176. CITY OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS, 1927. 1 map.

Map of Rock Island, Illinois, showing boundaries of town and lots, names of streets, locations of alleys, and lot and block numbers. Drawn by county highway engineer. Hand-drawn and colored. 1 in. to 300 ft. 6 ft. x 6 ft. 5 in. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

177. CITY OF MOLINE, ILLINOIS, 1927. 1 map.

Map of Moline, Illinois, showing names of streets, additions, and subdivisions, lot and block numbers, dimensions of lots and blocks, and location of parks, cemeteries, railroads, and principal buildings. Drawn by R. H. Benell. Hand-drawn and colored. 1 in. to 300 ft. 6 ft. x 6 ft. 11 in. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

178. SILVIS, ILLINOIS, 1922. 1 map.

Political map of town of Silvis, Illinois, showing boundaries of town, lots, and blocks, lot and block numbers, and names and locations of streets. Drawn by county highway engineer, Rock Island, Illinois. Hand-drawn and colored. 4 ft. x 3 ft. Rec.'s off., 2nd fl.

179. GOVERNMENT SURVEY, 1867. 1 v.

Plats of governmental survey of Rock Island County, showing interior and exterior corners, sections, and quarter sections, description of corners, corner witness trees, objects on lines, and certificate of United States Land Office. Arr. by sec. no. No index. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 40 p. $17 \times 21\frac{1}{2} \times 2$. Rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

180. ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, no date. 1 map.

Map of political divisions of Rock Island County, showing township, section, and range numbers, and locations of cities, villages, towns, rivers, railroads, and highways. Peoria, Illinois: W. A. Howat and Son, publisher. Printed. 4 ft. x 3 ft. 4 in. Rec.'s off., 2nd fl.

Fees

181. CASH BOOK, 1904--. 36 v.

Daily record of fees earned for recording instruments, showing date, kind of instrument, recording number, and amount of fee. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p., 9 x 7½ x 1 - 10 x 13 x 1. 34 v., 1904-32, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 2 v., 1933--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

IV. COUNTY COURT

The county court serves as the judicial branch of county government. This court is administered by the county judge who is elected for a four-year term by the county electorate. Before entering upon the duties of his office, the county judge is required to take and subscribe to an oath which he files with the Secretary of State. The compensation of the Rock Island county judge was originally set at \$2.50 per diem for holding court, which was paid quarterly out of the county treasury.¹ Today, the judge in this county receives \$5,000 per annum.² The court hears and determines matters in which it has original or concurrent jurisdiction, including appeals from the justices of the peace and police magistrates.³

At the time of the organization of Rock Island County, the powers of the judiciary in all counties were administered only by the justices of the peace,⁴ the probate judge,⁵ and the circuit court.⁶ Later, a civil and criminal court with jurisdiction coextensive with the county lines was established under the provisions of the Constitution of 1848 and legislation of 1849.⁷ The court created was the county court. This unit of county government was established with a partial reversion to the dual function, administrative and judicial, of the local judiciary in Illinois under the Territorial Laws prior to 1818. The court was different from the territorial courts in that its composition varied for each of the two functions. The judicial court was administered by the county judge, who was elected by the county electorate and commissioned by the Governor.⁸

1. L.1849, p. 62,63.

2. L.1933, p. 616.

3. L.1881, p. 70.

4. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 8; L.1819, p. 192.

5. L.1821, p. 119.

6. L.1819, p. 380.

7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 1, 16; L.1849, p. 62.

8. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17; L.1849, p. 62,66; R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 451.

County Court

His original four-year tenure of office has remained effective to the present. As the administrative body, the court was made up of the county judge and two justices of the peace.¹

Under the second constitution complete separation of county business powers from the judicial could be had with the acceptance by the county electorate of an independent administrative body, the board of supervisors, established under township organization.² This plan of government was not selected immediately, and Rock Island was governed by the dual county court until 1857 when the county board of supervisors became successor to the county court in its jurisdiction over county affairs and business. From that date on, the county court has served only as a judicial court in Rock Island County.

The county court as established in 1849 was vested with the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as the justices of the peace. The county judge was made a conservator of the peace. He was given the same power and authority as the circuit judge in preserving order in the court and punishing contempts offered the court while in session.³ Suits for the sale of delinquent lands for taxes of 1848, and prior years, could be brought and presented in either the circuit or county court, but for taxes of subsequent years, the county court was given exclusive original jurisdiction.⁴ The court also exercised jurisdiction equal with that of the circuit court over naturalization.⁵

In addition to its civil and criminal jurisdiction, the court was vested with all the powers and jurisdiction in probate matters which were vested prior to this date in the court of the probate justice. The court was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in hearing and determining applications for the sale of real estate of deceased persons and for the payment of debts for the estate.⁶ In 1910, when Rock Island established a separate probate court, the county court lost this jurisdiction.⁷

The law jurisdiction of the county court in Rock Island County is concurrent with that of the circuit court in that class of cases wherein the justices of the peace have jurisdiction where the value of the amount in

1. L.1849, p. 65.

2. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1849, p. 192, 202-4; L.1851, p. 38, 50-52.

3. L.1849, p. 65.

4. Ibid., p. 126.

5. 2 U.S.S.L. 155.

6. L.1849, p. 65.

7. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80; L.1881, p. 72.

County Court

controversy does not exceed \$2,000,¹ in all cases of appeals from justices of the peace and police magistrates, and in all criminal offenses and misdemeanors where the punishment is not imprisonment in the penitentiary or death.² The county court also has original jurisdiction in matters relating to indigent mothers,³ and jurisdiction over insane persons not charged with crime.⁴

The county and circuit courts have original jurisdiction in cases of juvenile offenders. This jurisdiction is over matters dealing with dependent, neglected, and delinquent children. The authority includes provision for the treatment, control, maintenance, adoption, and guardianship of such children.⁵

In 1899 provision was made for the appointment by the court of a juvenile probation officer to serve without compensation from the public treasury and at the pleasure of the court.⁶ In 1907 an amendment to this act authorized the court to allow compensation to such officers in a sum to be set by the county board, but the power of the court to appoint probation officers to serve without pay was in no way abridged by this legislation.⁷ An amendment of 1925 provided that if more than one probation officer were appointed, one was to be designated as chief probation officer. To be eligible for the position of chief probation officer, the candidate was required to have had experience in social welfare work equivalent to one year spent in active practical welfare work. Minimum rates, based upon population, were established for the compensation of these officers, the county board to fix the amount. Where a county had only one probation officer, the salary rates were made to apply to that individual. The court, however, retains the power to appoint probation officers to serve without pay.⁸ For Rock Island County, and others with a population of more than fifty thousand, but not exceeding one hundred thousand,⁹ the rate is set at a sum not less than \$150 a month.

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1. Under the laws of 1872 and the revised statutes of 1874, the jurisdiction was in cases wherein the amount involved did not exceed \$500 (L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 339,340). Legislation enacted in 1933 extended the jurisdiction to \$2,000 (L.1933, p. 452), but a later amendment of the same session, passed June 21, 1933, placed the jurisdiction in cases where the amount involved is not over \$1,000 (*ibid.*, p. 449). In 1939 jurisdiction was again extended to \$2,000 (L.1939, p. 492).
 2. R.S.1874, p. 340; L.1877, p. 77; L.1895, p. 212, 223; L.1933, p. 449-51.
 3. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 162-64; L.1935, p. 256-59.
 4. L.1869, p. 366; R.S.1874, p. 685.
 5. L.1899, p. 131-37; L.1901, p. 141-44; L.1905, p. 152-56; L.1907, p. 70-78.
 6. L.1899, p. 133.
 7. L.1907, p. 69,70.
 8. L.1925, p. 187,188.
 9. In 1930 the population of Rock Island County was listed as 98,191. Population Bulletin, p. 9.

County Court

The officer under consideration makes investigation on order of the court and takes charge of the child before and after trial. He is required to be present at the court hearings in order that he may represent the interest of the child. This officer also furnishes information and assistance as required by the court.¹

Upon petition filed with the clerk of the court for the removal of a neglected or dependent child from the custody of its parents or guardian, process is issued for appearance. The summons may be served by the sheriff or the duly appointed probation officer.²

At any time after the filing of the petition and pending the final disposition, the court may allow the child to remain in the possession of its custodian, or in its home subject to the visitation of the probation officer; or the child may be ordered in custody of the probation officer.³ If upon hearing the case the court finds the child to be dependent or neglected, the court may commit the child to an association or institution, or allow the child to remain in his home subject to the visitation of the probation officer.⁴ In a similar fashion the probation officer for adults, an appointee of the circuit court, assists the county court in the administration of justice among adult violators.⁵

In cases of delinquency, if the court finds any child to be delinquent, the court may commit the child to an institution or to the custody of the probation officer. The court may upon its discretion, send juvenile offenders and vagrants to the state reform school rather than to the county jail.⁶

Another probation officer, also an appointee of the county court, assists the court in mothers' pension cases. The state and county funds for indigent mothers and their children are administered by the county court, its appointed probation officers, the county board with the assistance of the county clerk, the county treasurer, and the State Department of Public Welfare. The county court, however, is given original jurisdiction in these matters.⁷

A mother whose husband is dead or incapacitated, or who is abandoned by her husband, is entitled to the benefits of the mothers' pension fund when she is in need. Such mother may file an application with the county

1. L.1899, p. 133; L.1925, p. 187,188.

2. L.1899, p. 132,133; L.1905, p. 153,154; L.1907, p. 72,73.

3. L.1907, p. 74.

4. L.1923, p. 180,181.

5. L.1911, p. 280-82.

6. L.1907, p. 75.

7. L.1913, p. 127-30; L.1915, p. 243-45; L.1921, p. 162-64; L.1935, p. 256-59.

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court for relief. The case of the applicant is then investigated by the probation officer under the direction of the court.¹ A report and recommendation of the approval or disapproval of such application is then made by this officer of the court. If the application is approved, the probation officer or other person may file with the clerk of the court a written petition verified by affidavit setting forth the facts giving the court jurisdiction and other facts upon which an order for relief is entered. Upon receipt of the petition, a summons is issued to the mother and the county board for appearance. The usual procedure is for the board to make a written appearance. Upon the hearing in court, the court may make an order upon the county board to pay monthly such money as may be necessary for the care of the mother and her child or children in accordance with the provisions of law.²

To carry out this procedure, the county court appoints the probation officer who serves during the pleasure of the court and is compensated for his services by the county in such amount as determined by the county board. As noted above, this officer is required to investigate all applications for relief and make a written report to the court. In addition to this duty, the probation officer makes quarterly visits and supervises, under the direction of the court, the families to which such assistance has been granted.³

The county board annually levies a tax on all taxable property to provide for the mothers' pension fund. The levy is made not in excess of two-fifths of one mill on a dollar in Rock Island County.⁴ In addition, the General Assembly, from time to time, makes appropriations to the State Department of Public Welfare, the funds, in turn, being distributed to the several counties to supplement the pension fund. To become entitled to the state appropriations, the county must meet the standards of administration set by the state agency. The county treasurer certifies to the state department an itemized statement, attested by the county clerk, of the money paid out during each quarter in accordance with the legislative provisions for this pension and also certifies annually the total assessed valuation and amount of money raised by tax levy for the mothers' pension fund.⁵

Jurisdiction in the election procedure is vested variously in the county board, the county court, and the county clerk. In the event that any city, village, or incorporated town adopts the City Election Act the county judge appoints a board of three election commissioners to have charge of elections in that political unit. Only one such board, however,

1. L.1913, p. 127-30; L.1915, p. 244; L.1935, p. 256-59.

2. L.1913, p. 127-30; L.1935, p. 257-59.

3. L.1913, p. 129, 130; L.1935, p. 258.

4. L.1919, p. 780,781; L.1927, p. 196,197; L.1928, First Sp. Sess., p. 3,4; L.1933, p. 194,195.

5. L.1935, p. 259.

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is appointed in each county. This board has jurisdiction over elections in all cities, villages, or incorporated towns which may adopt the act.¹ Otherwise, jurisdiction is vested in the county board, county court, and county clerk. The county court has original jurisdiction in election contests for certain county, district, and township offices.²

Aiding in the settlement of questions arising in the course of the election procedure is the county officers electoral board. This body consists of the county judge as chairman, the county clerk, and the state's attorney.²

The several nomination papers for county offices are filed with the county clerk and are considered valid unless objections are made within five days after the last day for filing such papers. Objections to nominations are made to the county officers electoral board for any office of the county, park district, or other division coterminous with or less than the county and other than a city, village, incorporated town, or township.⁴ The objector's petition is filed with the county clerk who presents the same, together with the nomination papers of certificate, before the electoral board.⁵ The petition contains the objector's name and residence, the nature of the objection, the interest of the objector, and the relief sought of the board.⁶ A notice of the hearing is sent to the candidate. Upon hearing the objections, the board renders a final decision by majority vote. In the event the candidate whose nomination is protested is a member of the electoral board, the circuit judge is required to fill his place.⁷

Jurisdiction is vested in the county court to hear and determine all questions relative to taxes on gifts, legacies and inheritance.⁸ The act granting this jurisdiction is generally known as the "Inheritance Tax Law." Originally, the state's attorney was charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of this law,⁹ however, since 1913 these duties have been performed by the Attorney General.¹⁰ Under that law the county judge and the county clerk are required every three months to make a statement in writing to the county treasurer of the property from which or the

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1. L.1885, p. 147-49; L.1899, p. 163-65; L.1917, p. 445,446; L.1929, p. 339; L.1933, p. 534; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 35.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 396.
 3. L.1891, p. 110,111; L.1933, p. 552.
 4. L.1891, p. 110,111; L.1929, p. 394.
 5. L.1891, p. 111; L.1929, p. 394; L.1933, p. 552.
 6. L.1929, p. 394,395.
 7. L.1933, p. 552.
 8. L.1895, p. 306; L.1909, p. 318.
 9. L.1895, p. 306; L.1909, p. 319.
 10. L.1913, p. 615,616; L.1935, p. 1179,1180.

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party from whom he has reasons to believe a tax under this act is due and unpaid.¹ The county treasurer is required to collect and pay to the State Treasurer all taxes that may be due and payable under it.²

Under an act of 1933, housing corporations may be organized in Illinois for the express purpose of improving housing conditions.³ Such corporations are subject to the supervision and control of the State Housing Board. This state agency has authority, after investigations and public hearings, to approve the acquisition of property and construction of housing projects. If the State Housing Board approves a project over the objections of ten percent of the property owners within a mile, but not included in the project, it must then file an application with the clerk of the county court to be submitted to the county judge for the confirmation of its approval. Such application is to contain copies of the findings and order of the board, transcript of testimony, description of the project and public spaces, statement of location, and reasons for approval by the board. The objectors to the project may file objections in the county court to the confirmation of such a project. The county judge then examines the application, objections, and any additional evidence before rendering a decision of "approved" or "not approved" on the application.⁴

Appeals from the judgments and decisions of the county court may be taken to the circuit court.⁵ To the Appellate Court or Supreme Court may be taken and prosecuted appeals and writs of error in proceedings for the sale of lands for taxes and special assessments, in all common law and attachment cases, and in cases of forcible detainer and forcible entry and detainer. Such appeals and writs of error are, when not otherwise provided, taken and prosecuted in the same manner as appeals and writs of error from the circuit court.⁶

The records of the county court are kept by its clerk. In Rock Island County the county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the county court. In addition to the statutory records described below the clerk necessarily maintains others in effecting the court's orders.⁷

For the court the clerk keeps the following records:

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court with alphabetical indexes by names of parties.

1. L.1895, p. 306; L.1909, p. 319; L.1913, p. 516.
2. L.1895, p. 307; L.1909, p. 319; L.1913, p. 516.
3. L.1933, p. 396-415; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 167-74.
4. Ibid.
5. L.1933, p. 396.
6. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1881, p. 66.
7. The form which such records take is generally determined by court order (L.1849, p. 66; R.S.1874, p. 262,263).

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Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law or when the court, at the motion and assumption of expenses by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, the court record has been broken down from an early date into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.

2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records," intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.
4. A judgment and execution docket containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.
5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's, and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.¹
6. A fee book in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the cause. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under these title of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices' courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgment for liens, etc., from justices' courts.
8. Naturalization records including petitions, proceedings, final certificates, etc. The county courts in Illinois prior to 1906 met the requirement of Federal statutes to exercise naturalization jurisdiction.²
9. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations; of particular importance in the large number of cases where complete proceedings are not spread on court record.³
10. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail containing a list of all prisoners in his custody and showing the cause of commitment and names of persons by whom committed.⁴

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1. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to county courts, subject to rules promulgated by the Supreme Court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court (L.1933, p. 786).
 2. 2 U.S.S.L. 153; U.S.P.S.1789-1874, p. 378.
 3. P.S.1845, p. 323,324,414,418,419; L.1865, p. 79,80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262,263; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378-80; 34 U.S.S.L. 596-607; 44 U.S.S.L. 709,710.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 617; L.1933, p. 678.

Proceedings of Court
(See also entry 124[iv])

182. MISCELLANEOUS INDEX COUNTY COURT, 1868--. 2 v.

Index to Civil Cases, entry 183; Adoption, entry 198; Assignment, entry 200; Arbitration, entry 207; Judge's Docket: Miscellaneous, entry 212; Judge's Docket Delinquency, entry 213; Judge's Docket Dependency, entry 214; Judge's Docket Adoption, entry 215; Dependency, entry 237; and Delinquency, entry 238, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date of petition or filing suit, type of action, case number, book and page of record, and file box number. Arr. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 400 - 500 p. 16 x 12 x 3 - 18 x 15 x 3½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

183. CIVIL CASES, 1872--. 79 f.b.

Documents in common law cases, including summonses, subpoenas, bills, complaints, pleas, writs, transcripts of evidence, instructions to jury, verdicts, appeals, and orders of court. Also contains Bastardy Bonds Before The County Judge, 1872-1926, entry 236. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 182. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

184. EXECUTION, 1872--. 6 f.b.

Judgments showing type of case, names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, amount of judgment, dates of filing and recording, and book and page of record. Arr. by case number. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

185. POOR PERSON, 1908--. 5 f.b. (1, 85, 130, 166, 180).

Papers filed in pauper cases, including complaints of state's attorney or overseer of poor against relative of pauper, summonses for relatives, testimony and affidavits of witness, and orders and decrees of court. Arr. by date of complaint. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4½ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

186. EXHIBIT AND NOTES, 1915--. 4 f.b.

Judgment notes showing date and amount of note, names of signers and endorsers, due date, amount of interest, attorney's fee, condition of loan, date of filing, and docket number. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4½ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

187. COUNTY COURT RECORDS, 1872--. 40 v. (1-40).

Copies of court orders in special assessment and civil cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, date and details of order, and signature of judge. Also contains Inheritance Tax Record, 1911--, entry 241. Arr. by date of court order. Indexed alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. 1872-1911, hdw.; 1912--, typed. 580 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Court - Proceedings
of Court

188. JUDGMENT DOCKET (Record), 1838--. 4 v. (1-4).

Copies of judgment orders in county court, showing docket number, nature of case, date and amount of judgment, name of person against whom judgment is rendered, and signature of judge. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

189. CONFESSIONS OF JUDGMENTS AND FEE BILLS, 1897-1915. 1 v.

Record of judgments by confession, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, docket number, date and type of action, amount of judgment, and date of summons. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 593 p. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

190. CRIMINAL, 1872--. 109 f.b. (99 f.b., 1872--; 10 f.b., 1925--).

Criminal case papers including indictments, summonses, subpoenas, instructions to jury, jury lists, affidavits of witnesses, writs of mittimus and habeas corpus, appeals, transcripts of evidence, bonds, and court orders. Arr. by case no. For index, 1918--, see entry 191. Hdw., and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

191. (INDEX TO CRIMINAL FILES), 1918--. 1 v.

Index to Criminal, entry 190, showing name of defendant and case number. This index, now in process of compilation, will cover 1872--. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. Typed. 150 p. 10 x 7 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

192. COUNTY COURT RECORD CRIMINAL, 1872--. 22 v. (1-22).

Copies of court orders in criminal cases, showing docket number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of case, date and details of order, and signature of judge. Arr. by date of order. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1872-1910, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1911--, typed on pr. fm. 572 p. 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

193. INSANE INDEX COUNTY COURT, 1853--. 1 v.

Index to Insane, entry 194; Feeble-minded, entry 195; and Insanity Record, entry 197, showing names of petitioner and alleged insane person, case number, date of petition, and book and page of record. Arr. alph. by name of alleged insane person. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 15 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

194. INSANE, 1853--. 56 f.b.

Documents of insanity cases, including petitions for commitment, orders appointing commission members, reports and recommendations of commissions, verdicts of juries, and orders for commitment. Also contains Feeble-minded, 1853-1915, entry 195, and Insanity Statements, 1853-1932, entry 228. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 193. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

195. **FEEBLE-MINDED**, 1916--. 4 f.b. 1853-1915 in Insane, entry 194. Documents in feeble-minded cases, including petitions, orders appointing commission members, transcripts of hearings, reports and recommendations of commission, and orders of court. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 193. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 6 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

196. **RECOMMITMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS**, 1938--. 1 f.b. Miscellaneous insane case papers, including reports of insane commissions, petitions for commitment of alleged insane persons, and recommitment orders for released patients. Upon recording, these papers are filed in Insane, entry 194. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

197. **INSANITY RECORD**, 1853--. 11 v. (A-C, E-L). Copies of documents in insanity proceedings, including petitions, orders appointing commissions, findings and recommendations of commissions, and orders of court for commitment or discharge of alleged insane persons. Also contains Insanity Docket, 1853-92, entry 218, including Docket of Proceedings on Feeble-mindedness, entry 219. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane person; for sep. index, see entry 193. 1853-1926, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1927--, typed on pr. fm. 590 p. 18 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

198. **ADOPTION**, 1868--. 15 f.b. (1A, 140A, 235A, 1, 90, 165, 215, 280, 335, 385, 415, 450, 460, 500, 540). Papers filed in adoption proceedings, including petitions, summonses, and decrees and orders of court. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

199. **UNION MISSION**, 1899-1905. 1 f.b. Parents' or guardian's releases of children to Union Mission, showing order committing child to care of mission, names of child and parents or guardian, dates of release and court order, and record book and page. Arr. by date of release. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

200. **ASSIGNMENT**, 1897--. 7 f.b. (1-7). Last entry 1905. Papers in voluntary assignment cases, including petitions, inventories, bonds of assignees, and orders of court. Present practice is to file bankruptcy proceedings in the United States District Court. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

201. **ASSIGNMENT RECORD**, 1877--. 3 v. (1-3). Last entry 1905. Copies of assignments of property to satisfy creditors, showing names of creditors, assignor, and assignee, legal description of property, date of assignment, amount of debt, and signature of assignor. Arr. by date of assignment. Indexed alph. by name of assignor. Hdw. 560 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

202. (ANNEXATION PETITIONS, AND DISCONNECTING ORDINANCES), 1884--.
1 f.b. (1065).

Papers relating to annexations of small villages to main metropolitan areas, including petitions and election returns; also copies of ordinances disconnecting territories from villages, towns, and cities. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

203. SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, 1898--. 109 f.b.

Special assessment documents including petitions, assessment rolls, affidavits of posting notice, objections, court orders allowing or dismissing objections, and payment vouchers for completed work. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw., typed, hdw. and typed on pr. fm., and hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

204. (PROHIBITION CASES), 1925-31. 1 f.b.

Papers in cases of alleged violation of Illinois Prohibition Act of 1921, including bills of complaint, summonses, injunctions, and orders and decrees of court. Legislation of 1933 repealed this Act. Arr. by date of complaint. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

205. (PETITIONS TO INCORPORATE), 1873--. 1 f.b. Last entry 1928. Petitions for the incorporation of villages, showing dates of petition and filing, names and addresses of petitioners, and name of village. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and hdw. under pr. hdgs. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

206. EXHIBITS IN THE MOLINE AIRPORT CASE, 1934-35. 1 f.b.
Exhibits in Moline Airport Case, sealed by order of court. No index. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 18. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

207. ARBITRATION, 1912-14. 1 f.b. Subsequently kept by Industrial Commission, Illinois Department of Labor.

Papers relating to arbitrated cases of claims for industrial injuries, including appointments of arbitrators, petitions, physicians' reports, affidavits, and findings and orders of arbitration commission. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 182. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Dockets

Court Dockets

208. JUDGE'S DOCKET CIVIL, 1905--. 7 v. (7, 1-5, 1). 1872-1904 in Judge's Docket, entry 211.

Docket of civil cases in county court, showing docket number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, kind of action, date and term of court, and dates and notation of court orders; includes complaints to board of review. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

209. JUDGE'S DOCKET CRIMINAL, 1905---. 18 v. (6, 1-15, 1905---; 1, 2, 1925---). 1872-1904 in Judge's Docket, entry 211.

Docket of criminal cases in county court, showing docket number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, kind of action, date and term of court, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

210. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DOCKET, 1905---. 3 v. (1-3). 1872-1904 in Judge's Docket, entry 211.

Docket of special assessment proceedings, showing date of petition, names of objectors and attorneys, amount of assessment, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by date of petition. No index. 1905-10, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1911---, typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 16 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

211. JUDGE'S DOCKET, 1872-1904. 5 v. (1-5).

Docket of criminal and civil cases in county court, including complaints to board of review, 1899-1904, containing same information as shown in entries, 208, 209, 210. Subsequently kept as Judge's Docket Civil, entry 208; Judge's Docket Criminal, entry 209; and Special Assessment Docket, entry 210. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

212. JUDGE'S DOCKET: MISCELLANEOUS, 1910---. 3 v.

Docket of miscellaneous county court cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, date of petition or filing suit, type of case, and dates and notations of court orders. Also contains Judge's Docket Delinquency, 1910-13, entry 213; Judge's Docket Dependency, 1910-13, entry 214; Judge's Docket Adoption, 1910-13, entry 215; and Judge's Docket Inheritance Tax, 1911-30, entry 242. Arr. by date of petition or filing suit. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 14 x 9 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

213. JUDGE'S DOCKET DELINQUENCY, 1914---. 2 v. (1, 2). 1910-13 in Judge's Docket: Miscellaneous, entry 212.

Docket of proceedings of county court in matters of delinquency, showing date of petition, name of defendant, docket number, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 10 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

214. JUDGE'S DOCKET DEPENDENCY, 1914---. 2 v. (1, 2). 1910-13 in Judge's Docket: Miscellaneous, entry 212.

Docket of proceedings of county court in matter of dependency, showing names of petitioner, dependent, and attorneys, date of petition, docket number, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 10 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

215. JUDGE'S DOCKET ADOPTION, 1914--. 2 v. 1910-13 in Judge's Docket: Miscellaneous, entry 212.

Docket of adoption cases, showing names of petitioner, parents or guardian, child, and attorneys, docket number, dates of petition and hearing, dates and notations of court orders, and extent of financial responsibility of foster parents. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 10 x 13 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

216. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1872--. 4 v. (1, 1872-90; 2-4, 1872--).

Docket of judgments in county court, showing docket number, names of plaintiff and defendant, nature, date, and amount of judgment, costs, fee book and page, execution number, and final disposition. V. 1, 1872-90, has been transcribed in volume 2, 1872-95. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 14 x 3. V. 1, 1872-90, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 2-4, 1872--., co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

217. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1872--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Docket of executions, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and nature of execution, amounts of damages and costs, fee book and page, and date of sheriff's return. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 12 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

218. INSANITY DOCKET, 1893--. 10 v. (1-10). 1853-92 in Insanity Record, entry 197.

Docket of insanity cases, showing docket number, date of petition, name, age, and sex of alleged insane person, dates and notations of court orders, and final disposition. Also contains Docket of Proceedings on Feeble-mindedness, 1893-1915, entry 219. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane person. 1893-1900, hdw.; 1901-16, typed on pr. fm.; 1917--., hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

219. DOCKET OF PROCEEDINGS ON FEEBLE-MINDEDNESS, 1916--. 2 v. (A, B). 1893-1915 in Insanity Docket, entry 218.

Docket of cases of feeble-mindedness, showing name of feeble-minded person, date of petition, name of conservator, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of alleged feeble-minded person. Hdw. on pr. fm. 290 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

220. CLERK'S DOCKET, 1884-1933. 2 v. (2, 1 not numbered).

Docket of cases in county court, showing docket number, date of filing suit, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, nature of action, dates and notations of court orders, and disposition of case. Arr. by docket no. No index. 1884-1920, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1921-33, hdw. 350 p. 14 x 9 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Justices' Dockets

221. JUSTICE DOCKET, 1847-1919. 9 v. Subsequent dockets kept by local justices of the peace until they are completed. Dockets of cases in justices of the peace courts, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, type of case, abstract of proceedings, nature and date of disposition of case, and amount of fees. Arr. by date of case. 1847-1904, no index; 1905-19, indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 330 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

222. DOCKET OF CHATTEL MORTGAGE, 1902-23. 5 v. (4 v., 1902-23; 1 v., 1909-18). Subsequent dockets in hands of justices of the peace.

Justice of the peace docket of chattel mortgage acknowledgments, showing date and conditions of mortgage, description of property, date of acknowledgment, and signature of justice. Arr. by date of acknowledgment. Indexed alph. by name of mortgagor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

223. COUNTY DOCKET (Police Magistrate), 1918-21. 1 v. Subsequent records in hands of police magistrates.

Docket of cases in police magistrate courts, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date of case, type of action, and notations of appeal or disposition. Arr. by date of case. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 390 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Fee Books

224. FEE BOOK, CIVIL (and Criminal) CASES, 1872--. 16 v. (1 not numbered, 2-5, 1872-1922; 6-16, 1911--).

Register of fees charged in common law and criminal cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date of filing suit, number and kind of case, itemized account of fees, date of payment, and name of payer. Also contains Fee Book Delinquency and Adoption, 1923--, entry 226, and (People's) Fee Book, 1900--, entry 227. Arr. by date of filing suit. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 550 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

225. INSANITY FEE BOOK, 1908--. 3 v. (3-5). 1847-88 in Probate Fee Book, entry 293; 1889-1907 in Conservators' Fee Book, entry 290.

Register of fees charged in proceedings of insanity cases, showing name of alleged insane person, date of petition, itemized account of fees, and date of payment. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane person. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 520 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

226. FEE BOOK DELINQUENCY AND ADOPTION, 1912-22. 2 v. 1923-- in Fee Book, Civil (and Criminal) Cases, entry 224.

Register of fees in delinquency and adoption cases, showing names of petitioner and defendant, itemized account of fees, term of commencement and disposal, amount of payment, and name of payer. Arr. by date of suit. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner or defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 573 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

227. (People's) FEE BOOK, 1872-99. 1 v. 1900-- in Fee Book, Civil (and Criminal) Cases, entry 224.

Register of fees of clerk, sheriff, and justice of the peace, and fines in state cases, showing date and type of action, and dates and amounts of fees. Arr. by date of fee. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 573 p. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Reports to Court

228. INSANITY STATEMENTS, 1933--. 1 f.b. 1853-1932 in Insane, entry 194.

Semiannual reports of superintendents of state insane hospitals to clerk of county court on condition of patients from Rock Island County, showing names of patients, dates of admission and discharge or death, physical and mental condition of each patient still in hospital, date of report, name and address of institution, and signature of superintendent. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

229. REPORT OF CONDITION OF PATIENTS AT STATE HOSPITAL, 1854-1920.
2 f.b. (23, 1854-1913; 1 not numbered, 1900-20).

Reports on condition of patients at state hospital, showing name, address, and condition of patient, date of commitment, date of parole, and signature of superintendent. Subsequent records are now received in the form of statements on each individual patient and are filed with county court case papers for each case. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. F.b. 23, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 f.b. not numbered, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Bonds

230. APPEAL BOND, 1892--. 1 f.b.

Bonds posted in appealed cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sureties, date, amount, and conditions of bond, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

231. MISCELLANEOUS BONDS, 1892--. 1 f.b.

File of miscellaneous bonds, including bail, recognizance, replevin, and security bonds, showing number, purpose, date, amount, and condition of bond, names of principal and sureties, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

232. ATTACHMENT BOND, 1898--. 1 f.b. Last entry 1931.

Attachment bonds showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sureties, date, amount, and condition of bond, description of attached property, amount of debt, date of filing, and record book and page. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

233. BASTARDY BONDS, 1899---. 1 f.b.

Bonds for support and maintenance of illegitimate children, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, sureties, and child, number, date, and conditions of bond, and expiration, approval, and filing dates. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

234. BONDS FOR COSTS, 1904---. 1 f.b.

Bonds filed to guarantee payment of costs in common law cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sureties, number, date, amount, and conditions of bond, and dates of approval and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

235. 5 MONTHS' BONDS, 1926---. 1 f.b.

Bonds posted in criminal cases to insure payment of fines and costs, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sureties, date, amount, and conditions of bond, type of action, approval of court, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

236. BASTARDY BONDS BEFORE THE COUNTY JUDGE, 1927---. 1 f.b. 1872-1926 in Civil Cases, entry 183.

Bonds for appearance of defendants in bastardy cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sureties, number, date, amount, and conditions of bond, and dates of appearance and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Probation

Juvenile

237. DEPENDENCY, 1887---. 18 f.b. (1, 33, 106, 210, 300, 370, 426, 475, 535, 595, 660, 735, 800, 870, 920, 980, 1a, 90a).

Papers filed in dependency cases, including petitions, summonses, and decrees and orders of court. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

238. DELINQUENCY, 1900---. 12 f.b. (1a, 100a, 1, 90, 200, 300, 395, 460, 540, 625, 700, 750).

Papers filed in delinquency cases, including petitions, affidavits, summonses, and orders and decrees of court. Arr. by date of petition. For index, see entry 182. Hdw. and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Mothers' Pension (See
also entries 21, 397)

239. JUDGE'S DOCKET: MOTHERS' PENSION, 1912--. 2 v. (1, 2).
Docket of mothers' pension cases, showing date of application, name of
applicant, findings of court, amount of reward, and history of case. Arr.
by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. under
pr. hdgs. 300 p. 10 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Inheritance Tax
(See also entry 396)

240. INHERITANCE TAX PAPERS, 1907--. 31 f.b.
Files of inheritance tax papers, including entries of appearance, orders
appointing appraisers, estate appraisals, acknowledgments, tax return, and
orders assessing tax. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw., and hdw. and typed
on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

241. INHERITANCE TAX RECORD, 1904-10. 2 v. (1, 2). 1911-- in County
Court Records, entry 187.
Record of inheritance tax determinations, showing names of estate, bene-
ficiaries, and appraiser, inventory of estate, appraised value, list of
exemptions, amounts subject to tax, and amount of tax. Arr. by date of
entry. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1904-6, hdw.; 1907-10, typed.
300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

242. JUDGE'S DOCKET INHERITANCE TAX, 1902-10, 1931--. 3 v. (1, 2,
1 not numbered). Title varies: Inheritance Tax Record (Docket).
1911-30 in Judge's Docket: Miscellaneous, entry 212.
Docket of inheritance tax determinations, showing name of estate, de-
scription of property, amount of tax, date and amount of appraisal, and
abstract of proceedings. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name
of estate. 1902-10, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1931--, typed on pr. fm. 300 p.
19 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Naturalization
(See also entries 314, 342-348)

243. MINORS' (Naturalization) PETITION AND AFFIDAVIT, 1846-1906.
4 f.b. (9-11, 1846-1900; 30, 1893-1906).
Oaths of allegiance and certificates of declarations of intention for
naturalization, showing name, age, and nativity of alien, period of resi-
dence in the United States, and date of filing; includes affidavits of
other courts regarding aliens' naturalization, and minors' petitions, af-
fidavits, and oaths of allegiance. Arr. by date of petition. No index.
Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

244. DECLARATION OF INTENTION, 1872-1906. 7 v. (1-7).

Copies of declarations of intention for citizenship, showing name and age of applicant, nativity, oath, and date of acknowledgment. Arr. by date of declaration. For index, see entry 245. Hdw. on pr. fm. 415 p. 15 x 9 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

245. INDEX TO NATURALIZATION, 1872-1906. 1 v.

Index to Declaration of Intention, entry 244, showing name of applicant, date of declaration, book and page of entry, and remarks. Arr. alph. by name of alien. Typed under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 15½ x 10 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

246. NATURALIZATION RECORD SOLDIERS, 1884-1906. 1 v.

Copies of soldiers' citizenship petitions, oaths, and certificates, showing name, age, nativity, present residence, and military record, and dates of petition, oath, and certificate. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of soldier. Hdw. on pr. fm. 140 p. 15 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

V. PROBATE COURT

Jurisdiction in probate matters in Rock Island County was vested in a separate probate court from 1833 to 1849. The judge of probate was appointed by the General Assembly and held office during good behavior.¹ In 1837 it was provided that the probate court be held in each county by a probate justice of the peace who was elected by the county electorate for a four-year term;² the term was reduced in 1847 to two years.³ The jurisdiction of the probate court was transferred to the newly created county court in 1849.⁴ This situation remained unchanged in all counties throughout the second constitutional period. In 1870 the State of Illinois adopted a new constitution which authorized the General Assembly to provide for the establishment of a separate probate court in counties having a population of more than fifty thousand.⁵ The enabling legislation, enacted seven years later, set the population requirement at one hundred thousand;⁶ in 1881 the figure was reduced to seventy thousand.⁷

1. L.1821, p. 119; L.1823, p. 132; L.1825, p. 87.

2. L.1836-37, p. 176. The first justice was elected for a two-year term, the four-year term becoming effective in 1839.

3. L.1845, p. 28. Effective in 1847.

4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 65.

5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20.

6. L.1877, p. 79.

7. L.1881, p. 72.

Present legislation makes the establishment of a separate probate court mandatory in counties having eighty-five thousand or more inhabitants, and optional in those counties with a population of between seventy thousand and eighty-five thousand.¹ Rock Island County attained the lower population requirement in 1910, and a separate probate court was then established.

The court's incumbent, the probate judge, is required by constitutional provision and subsequent legislation to be elected at the same time and in the same manner as the county judge. His term of office is four years.² Originally his salary was fixed by the county board;³ however, in 1925, it was provided that in counties having less than five hundred thousand inhabitants the salary of the probate judge should be \$5,000 a year, payable in monthly installments from the county treasury.⁴ When a vacancy occurs in the office of probate judge and the unexpired term is less than one year, the Governor fills the vacancy by appointment, otherwise, a new election is held.⁵

As enunciated by the present constitution and the enabling legislation the jurisdiction of the court extends to all probate matters, the settlement of estates of deceased persons, the appointment of guardians and conservators and settlements of their accounts; in all matters relating to apprentices, and in cases of sales or real estate of deceased persons for payment of debts.⁶

Originally, the court was required to hold monthly sessions;⁷ however, since 1933 there have been no stated terms, the court being always open for the transaction of probate and other business, except that the court may adjourn from time to time at its discretion.⁸ The court is given power to impanel a jury for the trial of issues or matters of fact in any matter pending before it and has power to compel the attendance of jurors and witnesses.⁹ County and probate judges may interchange with each other, hold court for each other and perform each other's duties in their own or any other county when necessary or convenient.¹⁰ The probate judge is prohibited from acting as attorney or solicitor for any administrator, executor, heirs, or other person (unless an officer of the court) interested in the estate of any deceased person, or to aid, advise, or assist in the

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1. L.1933, p. 458.
 2. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80.
 3. L.1877, p. 83.
 4. L.1925, p. 336.
 5. L.1877, p. 84.
 6. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80.
 7. L.1877, p. 80.
 8. L.1933, p. 459.
 9. L.1877, p. 80; L.1933, p. 460.
 10. L.1903, p. 153.

Probate Court

preparation of any petition, report, or other document which is to be filed or recorded in the court in which he is judge.¹ When the probate judge is an interested party in any estate to be probated in his court, the county judge shall have jurisdiction in the matter unless he shall also be interested, in which case the matter is taken to the circuit court of the county for probate. If, however, the probate judge is interested only as a creditor, no change may be made except in relation to his claim.²

Appeals may be taken from the final orders, judgments, and decrees of the probate court to the circuit court of the county except in proceedings in applications of executors, administrators, guardians, and conservators for the sale of real estate. The appellant must give bond and security in such amount and upon such condition as the court shall require.³

Aiding the court in its jurisdiction over the administration of intestate estates and the guardianship of minors, are, respectively, the public administrator and the public guardian. Each officer is appointed quadrennially by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The public administrator and public guardian are required to enter into bonds set and approved by the probate court in sums not less than \$5,000.⁴ Their duties are performed under the direction and orders of the court. The records that result from their prescribed duties appear among the records of the court with those of other administrators, executors, and guardians.

When there is no relative or creditor who will administer an intestate estate, the court commits the administration to the public administrator upon application of any person interested in the estate.⁵ If a widow, next of kin, or creditor of the deceased appears within six months after the administration is granted to the public administrator, the court then revokes its grant of administration to the public administrator and orders letters of administration granted to such person interested in the estate. If, after all debts and charges against the estate which have been presented within two years after the administration of the estate was committed to such public administrator are fully paid, any balance of the intestate estate remains, the administrator causes a notice to be published requiring persons still having claims against the estate to present them to the county court within six months. If no claims are presented, the balance is paid into the county treasury, upon the expira-

1. L.1917, p. 327,328.

2. L.1877, p. 81; L.1933, p. 460.

3. L.1877, p. 81.

4. L.1825, p. 70-72; R.L.1829, p. 208; R.L.1833, p. 627,628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 89; L.1881, p. 3; L.1889, p. 165.

5. R.L.1833, p. 628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 89.

Probate Court

tion of the six-month period, the county remaining answerable to any future claims.¹

As already noted, the court has authority to appoint guardians of minor heirs of deceased persons.² In cases where the minor is under fourteen years of age the court appoints his guardian. When the minor is over fourteen he may nominate his own guardian, subject to the approval of the court.³ Under the direction of the court, the guardian is responsible for the custody, nurture, and tuition of his ward and the care and management of his estate. The court may assign the guardianship of the estate to one guardian and the custody and tuition of the ward to another.⁴ Within sixty days after his appointment, the guardian returns to the probate court a complete inventory of the real personal estate of the ward in the form prescribed by law.⁵ At the end of the first year of his appointment, and every three years thereafter, he makes a settlement of his accounts. When his trust is completed or upon the death of the ward, the guardian makes final settlement and delivers over to persons entitled to them, the property and papers in his hands as guardian.⁶ Upon failure of a guardian appointed by the court to act within three months in this capacity, the court commits the guardianship of the minor to the public guardian.⁷ The latter's records appear with those of other guardians. Jurisdiction in the matter of appointing conservators for the estates of lunatics, idiots, spendthrifts, and drunkards is vested in the probate court in all counties maintaining a separate probate court.⁸

In any county having a population of more than seventy thousand and less than two hundred thousand, the judge of the probate court may appoint a shorthand reporter to take full stenographic notes of the evidence in making proofs of heirships, in the probating of wills, and in all other cases coming before the court when so directed by the judge. Such reporter holds his position at the pleasure of the judge, but his term of service may not extend beyond that of the appointing judge.⁹ Another ministerial officer of the court is the sheriff who is required to attend, in person or by deputy, all sessions of the court, to preserve order, and execute all legal commands and process.¹⁰

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1. R.S.1845, p. 549; L.1871-72, p. 89,90.
 2. L.1831, p. 100; L.1835, p. 36; R.S.1845, p. 265,266; L.1873-74, p. 107; L.1919, p. 583; L.1931, p. 618; L.1937, p. 660.
 3. Ibid.
 4. L.1871-72, p. 469; L.1877, p. 114.
 5. L.1919, p. 582; L.1933, p. 644.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 471; L.1919, p. 583; L.1929, p. 506.
 7. L.1889, p. 165.
 8. L.1919, p. 593.
 9. Ibid., p. 417.
 10. L.1877, p. 81,

Probate Court

The early probate judge, 1821 to 1837, and the probate justice of the peace, 1837 to 1849, each performed the ministerial function of the probate clerk.¹ When probate jurisdiction was transferred to the county court at its creation in 1849, the clerk of that court served as ex-officio probate clerk.² This situation obtained in Rock Island County until 1910 when a separate probate court was established. Since that year, by statutory provision,³ the court has had its own clerk, an elected officer whose term of office, like that of the probate judge, is four years. He is required to give bond with two or more sureties, to be approved by the probate judge, in the sum of not less than \$5,000.⁴ The clerk is required to attend all sessions of court, issue all process, preserve all the files and papers of the court, make, keep, and preserve complete records of all the proceedings and determinations of the court, and perform all other duties pertaining to his office as required by law or rules and orders of his court. He is required to enter of record all judgments, decrees, and orders of the court. In the performance of these duties he may, when necessary, appoint deputies for whose acts he is responsible.⁵ In all matters concerning the probate of estates of deceased persons, the granting of letters testamentary or of administration, letters of guardianship, the manner of keeping court records, the form of docket entries, journals, fee books, memorandums, and process, and the recording of papers and documents, the clerk is required to be governed by and follow all laws concerning similar matters in the county court of the state.⁶

The major records of the probate court kept by the clerk are the following:

1. Journal of all judicial proceedings and determinations of the judge.
2. A judgment docket with a direct and an indirect index: former, by name of claimant against estate; latter, by estate. In practice, the requirement of two indexes often leads to two dockets.
3. Books for recordation of bonds and letters of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators; appraisement and sale bills; widows' relinquishment and selection of property; wills and their probate; annual and final reports of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators.

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1. L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1829, p. 215; L.1831, p. 192; L.1837, p. 177, 178; R.S.1845, p. 427,428.
 2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 63-65; R.S.1874, p. 339,340.
 3. L.1877, p. 82.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Ibid., p. 83.

Generally, each category of these probate business matters is recorded separately, but the segregation is not always carefully maintained.

4. Separate dockets of unsettled estates and claims against estates, and a ledger of the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians. Notes that the dockets of probate business matters are separated from dockets of court proceedings, just as are the books of recordation of the two categories; the intention of the law to make this distinction is further shown in its granting the clerk, during vacation of the court, power to receive petitions, accept bonds, grant letters testamentary, etc.
5. Files of original documents not subject to recordation; indexes to such; records of office transactions in pursuance of the court's orders to the clerk, necessary in the latter's settlement with that body.¹

Proceedings of Court

Indexes

247. GENERAL CARD INDEX SYSTEM, 1836--. 25 f.b.

Card index to all probate records and documents, showing names of estate and administering person, description of property, date of filing, case number, and book and page of entry. This index replaces indexes 248-250. Arr. alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 x 8. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

248. PROBATE INDEX, 1836-1936. 1 v.

Index to records of estates of deceased, minor, and insane persons, showing name of estate, legal description of property, age and address of deceased or insane person, and book and page of entry. This index has been replaced by General Card Index System, entry 247. Arr. alph. by name of estate. Hdw. 750 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $3\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

249. INDEX TO ESTATES, 1839-1900. 1 v.

Index to estates in probate, showing name of estate, description of property, names of deceased and attorney, date of filing, and book and page of entry. This index has been replaced by General Card Index System, entry 247. Arr. alph. by name of estate. Hdw. 570 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

1. L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1829, p. 215,231; R.L.1837, p. 429; R.S.1845, p. 427,428; L.1851, p. 193; L.1859, p. 92-94; R.S.1874, p. 260-65; L.1877, p. 83; L.1933, p. 293.

250. GUARDIANS' INDEX, 1840-1900. 1 v.

Index to guardians' records in probate court, showing names of minor heirs and guardian, description of property, date of filing, and book and page of entry. This index has been replaced by General Card Index System, entry 247. Arr. alph. by name of guardian. Hdw. 650 p. 18 x 12 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

General Proceedings

251. (PROBATE COURT PAPERS), 1836--. 566 f.b. (65 f.b., 1836--,
closed cases; 501 f.b., 1836--., open cases).

Probate court papers, including petitions, oaths, bonds, letters, and reports of administering persons, inventories, appraisements, sale bills, account records, wills, and court orders. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 247. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14. 65 f.b., 1836--., closed cases, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 501 f.b., 1836--., open cases, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

252. PROBATE RECORD, 1836--. 96 v. (A-Z, 27-96).

Record of probated estates, containing copies of wills, bonds, letters of administration, inventories, notices, petitions, sale bills, and reports of administering persons. Also contains Record of Heirship, 1836-1909, 1923--., entry 264; Copartnership Inventory Record, 1930--., entry 269; and Insolvent Estate Record, 1914--., entry 270. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1836-1900, hdw.; 1901--., typed. 550 p. 18 x 13 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. A-Q, 1836-1900, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. R-Z, 27-96, 1901--., pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

253. MISCELLANEOUS COURT RECORDS, 1893--. 12 v. (1-3, 3-5, 1893--;
1-6, 1932--).

Record of proceedings in probate estates including copies of court orders admitting will to probate, distributing funds, approving funds, approving reports, allowing claims, executing deeds, re-opening cases, and permitting sale of real estate. Volume 3, 1910, contains proceedings in probate of Chas. H. Deere estate. Also contains Sale Record, 1933-34, entry 274, and Just and True Account and Bond Record, 1932--., entry 282. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1893-1910, hdw.; 1911-31, hdw. and typed; 1932--., photostated. 600 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Wills, Bonds, Letters (See also
entries 251, 252)

254. WILL RECORD, 1837--. 27 v. (A-Z, 27).

Copies of wills presented for probate, showing names of decedent, heirs, and executor, provisions and date of will, signature of decedent, and date of filing; includes copies of proofs of will establishing validity. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of decedent; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1837-1901, hdw.; 1902-32, typed; 1933--., photostated. 550 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

255. EXECUTORS' RECORD, 1859---. 17 v. (A-E, 1-12). 1839-58 in Bonds, Oaths, Letters, Inventories, entry 260.

Copies of executors' petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters, showing date of petition, names of estate, executor, and sureties, amount, date, and condition of bond, details of oath and letters testamentary, signature of clerk, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1859-1922, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1923---, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. A-E, 1-4, 1859-1922, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 5-12, 1923---, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

256. ADMINISTRATORS' RECORD, 1859---. 22 v. (A-I, 1-12, 2). 1839-58 in Bonds, Oaths, Letters, Inventories, entry 260.

Copies of administrators' petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters, showing date of petition, names of estate, administrator, and sureties, amount and conditions of bond, details of oath, court order authorizing issuance of letters of administration, signatures of judge and clerk, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1859-1914, hdw.; 1915---, hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. A-I, 1-6, 1859-1925, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 7-12, 2, 1926---, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

257. GUARDIANS' RECORD, 1859---. 9 v. (A-H, 1859---; 1, 1931---). 1839-58 in Bonds, Oaths, Letters, Inventories, entry 260.

Copies of guardians' petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters, showing names of estate, guardian, minor heirs, and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, date of filing, and signature of clerk. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of minor; for sep. indexes, see entries 247 and 258. Hdw. on pr. fm. 592 p. 18 x 13 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

258. GUARDIANS' INDEX, 1859---. 1 v.

Index to Guardians' Record, entry 257, showing names of minor and guardian, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of minor. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

259. CONSERVATORS' RECORD ON TRANSCRIPT, 1893---. 7 v. (D, F, 1893-1915; 1-5, 1911---). 1839-58 in Bonds, Oaths, Letters, Inventories, entry 260.

Copies of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of conservators, showing names of conservator, incompetent person, and sureties, amount and obligations of bond, details of oath and letters of appointment, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of conservator; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 410 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For other copies of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of conservators, see entries 262 and 263.

260. BONDS, OATHS, LETTERS, INVENTORIES, 1839-58. 5 v.

Copies of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators, showing names of estate, administering person, and sureties, amount and conditions of bond, details of oath and letters, and date of filing. Executors' Record, entry 255; Administrators' Record, entry 256; Guardians' Record, entry 257; and Conservators' Record on Transcript, entry 259, subsequently kept separately. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. 300 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

261. RECORD WILL ANNEXED, 1910--. 2 v. (1, C).

Copies of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of administrators with will annexed, showing names of estate, administrator, judge, clerk, attorney, sureties, and heirs, amount and conditions of bond, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of decedent; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 580 p. 18 x 13 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

262. MISCELLANEOUS BONDS AND LETTERS, 1884-1932. 2 v. (A, B).

Copies of oaths, bonds, and letters of administrators de bonis non, administrators with will annexed, conservators, and guardians, and additional bonds of administrators, showing names of estate, administering person, and sureties, date and amount of bond, details of oath and letters, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of administering person; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 440 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $3\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

263. BOND RECORD, 1913-31. 1 v.

Copies of bonds of administrators, conservators, and executors, showing names of administering person, estate, and sureties, amount and conditions of bond, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of administering person; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 480 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Heirship264. RECORD OF HEIRSHIP, 1910-22. 2 v. (1, 2). 1836-1909, 1923--
in Probate Record, entry 252.

Lists of lawful heirs and court orders of approval, showing date and term of court, names of estate and heirs, addresses of heirs, signature of judge, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. 560 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Inventories and Appraisements (See
also entries 251, 252)

265. INVENTORY RECORD, 1859--. 31 v. (A-Z, 1-5). 1849-58. in

Record of Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills, entry 271. Record of inventories of estates, showing names of estate and administering person, case number, itemized list of real and personal property, estimated value of property, administering person's oath, approval of

court, signatures of judge, clerk, and administering person, and dates of inventory, approval, and filing. Also contains Conservators' Inventory, 1859-1910, entry 267. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1859-1935, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1936--, photostated. 500 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

266. GUARDIANS' INVENTORY, 1872--. 5 v. (A, 1872-1921; 1-4, 1911--). Record of guardians' inventories of minors' estates, showing names of minors and guardian, itemized list of real and personal property, value of each item, guardian's oath, signatures of judge, clerk, and guardian, and dates of inventory, approval, and filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of minor; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1872-1931, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1932--, photostated. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

267. CONSERVATORS' INVENTORY, 1911--. 4 v. (1-4). 1859-1910 in Inventory Record, entry 265. Record of conservators' inventories of estates of incompetents, showing names of incompetent and conservator, itemized list of real and personal property, value of each item, conservator's oath, signatures of judge, clerk, and conservator, and dates of inventory, approval, and filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of conservator; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1911-30, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1931--, photostated. 480 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

268. APPRAISEMENT RECORD, 1859--. 14 v. (A-H, 1-6). 1849-58 in Record of Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills, entry 271. Copies of appraisers' reports of estimated values of estates, showing names of estate and appraiser, itemized list of all estate property, appraised value of each item, total appraised value of estate, order of court approval, dates of appraisement, approval, and filing, and signatures of judge, appraiser, and clerk. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1859-1921, hdw.; 1922--, hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. A-H, 1, 2, 1859-1921, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 3-6, 1922--, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

269. COPARTNERSHIP INVENTORY RECORD, 1872-1929. 1 v. 1930-- in Probate Record, entry 252. Record of inventories of copartnerships establishing value of deceased partners estate, showing names of partners and administering person, itemized list of real and personal property, value of each item, approval of court, dates of inventory, approval, and filing, and signatures of administering person, judge, and clerk. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of firm; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. 570 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

270. INSOLVENT ESTATE RECORD, 1883-1913. 1 v. 1914-- in Probate Record, entry 252. Record of insolvent estates, showing names of heirs, administrator, and estate, inventory and appraisement of estate, and report of administrator declaring estate insolvent. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

271. RECORD OF INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS, 1849-58.
3 v.

Copies of estate inventories, appraisements, and sale bills, showing date of filing, itemized list of real and personal property, value of each item, list and value of property sold, name of purchaser, amount and date of sale, and signature of administering officer. Inventory Record, entry 265; Appraisement Record, entry 268, and Sale Record, entry 274, subsequently kept separately. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. 350 p. $17\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection (See also entry 124[ix])

272. JUST AND TRUE ACCOUNT WIDOWS' AWARD AND SELECTION, 1882--.

4 v. (A, B, 1, 1). Title varies: Widows' Relinquishment.

Record of widows' property selections and relinquishments, showing date, names of deceased and widow, list of items selected, relinquished, and allowed, value of each item, total value, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1882-1934, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1935--, photostated. 590 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Petitions, Decrees, Reports of Sale (See also entries 251, 252)

273. REPORT OF SALE OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY, 1935--.

1 v. (1).

Copies of reports of real and personal property sales, showing names of estate, administering person, and purchasers, itemized list of sold articles, sale price of each item, amounts of expenditures incurred for clerk hire and advertising, attestation of administering person and date of filing. Also contains Sale Record, entry 274. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Photostated. 450 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

274. SALE RECORD, 1859-1932. 4 v. (A-C, C). 1849-58 in Record of Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills, entry 271; 1933-34 in Miscellaneous Court Records, entry 253; 1935-- in Report of Sale of Real and Personal Property, entry 273.

Copies of personal property bills of sale, showing terms, description, date and place of sale, itemized list of articles purchased, price of each item, total amount of sale, names of estate, administering person, and purchaser, signatures of clerk and judge, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. 569 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

275. PERSONAL PROPERTY SALE RECORD, 1914-29. 1 v.

Record of personal property sold at private sales, including copies of petitions for sale, court orders permitting sales, and bills of sale, showing itemized list of articles purchased, price of each item, names of purchasers, estate, and administering person, total amount of sale, approval of court, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 294 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

276. REAL ESTATE RECORD, 1850-88. 4 v. (3 not lettered, B).

Copies of petitions for sale of real estate and administering persons' reports of sales, showing names of estate, administering officer, and judge, dates of petition and sale, legal description of property, terms and amount of sale, signatures of judge and clerk, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. 500 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 2 v. not lettered, 1850-66, v. B, 1876-88, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v. not lettered, 1867-75, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Reports, Current and Final
Accounts (See also entries
251, 252)

277. CURRENT REPORTS, 1850-92, 1910--. 7 v. (A, 1 not labeled, A, 3, 1, 1, 2). Title varies: Reports of Distribution. 1893-1909 in Report Record, entry 279.

Copies of periodic reports of administering persons regarding financial status of estates, showing names of estate and administering person, itemized list of receipts and expenditures, date and amount of each item, names of payers and payees, purposes of receipts and expenditures, balance on hand, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1850-80, hdw.; 1881-92, 1910-34, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1935--, photostated. 1850-80, binding and paper poor. 450 - 560 p. 17 x 11 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 18 x 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 3. V. A, 1 not labeled, 1850-80, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A, 3, 1, 1, 2, 1881-92, 1910--, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

278. GUARDIANS' REPORT RECORD, 1886--. 13 v. (1, 1-10, 1, 2).

Copies of guardians' periodic and final reports of financial status of minors' estates, showing names of minor and guardian, itemized list of receipts and expenditures, date and amount of each item, balance on hand, date of filing, and signature of guardian. Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of minor; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1886-1931, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1932--, photostated. 540 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. 1, 1-10, 1886-1931, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 1, 2, 1932--, pro. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

279. REPORT RECORD, 1887--. 27 v. (6-13, 1887-1914; 1-19, 1905--). Copies of administering persons' final reports concerning financial status of estates, showing date of report, names of administering person and estate, itemized list of receipts and disbursements, balance due estate, balance on hand, and signature of administering person. Also contains Current Reports, 1893-1909, entry 277, and Administrators' and Executors' Report, 1887-1910, entry 280. Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1887-1914, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1905-34, hdw.; 1935--, photostated. 583 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

280. ADMINISTRATORS' AND EXECUTORS' REPORT, 1911--. 2 v. (1, 2). 1887-1910 in Report Record, entry 279. Copies of administrators' and executors' reports of receipts and expenditures, showing names of estate, administering person, payers, and payees, itemized list of receipts and disbursements, date and amount of each item, total receipts and expenditures, balance on hand, date of filing, and signature of administering person. Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 490 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

281. CONSERVATORS' REPORT RECORD, 1918--. 4 v. (1-4). Copies of conservators' annual reports of receipts and expenditures, showing names of incompetent and conservator, itemized list of receipts and expenditures, date and amount of each item, purpose of transactions, names of payees and payers, total receipts and disbursements, balance on hand, date of filing, and signature of conservator. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of incompetent; for sep. index, see entry 247. 1918-31, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1932--, photostated. 580 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

282. JUST AND TRUE ACCOUNT AND BOND RECORD, 1899-1931. 2 v. (1,2). 1932-- in Miscellaneous Court Records, entry 253. Copies of periodic reports submitted by administrators, showing date of report, names of estate, administrator, claimants, payers, and payees, amounts of receipts and disbursements, balance due estate, recapitulation, and date of filing; includes copies of bonds of administrators for sale of real estate. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate; for sep. index, see entry 247. Hdw. on pr. fm. 478 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

Dockets

283. JUDGE'S DOCKET, 1859--. 36 v. (5 not numbered, 3-20, 1-13). Docket of closed probate cases, showing names of estate, administering person, and attorneys, dates of death, filing will for probate, appointment of administering person, inventory and appraisement, and reports of administering person, date and amount of bond, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by date of filing will for probate. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 12 x 15 x 2. 5 v. not numbered, v. 3-20, 1-8, 1859-1924, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 9-13, 1925--, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

For open probate cases, 1923--, see entry 284.

284. PROBATE JUDGE'S DOCKET, 1923--. 7 v.

Docket of open probate cases, showing docket number, date of filing will for probate, names of estate and administering person, dates and notations of court orders, dates of filing reports, and book and page of record. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 17 x 13 x 3. Pro. clk.'s off., 1st fl.

For closed probate cases, 1859--., see entry 283.

285. DOCKET OF CLAIMS, 1849--. 10 v. (1 not labeled, A-D, 1-5).

Title varies: Judgment Docket.

Probate claim docket showing names of claimant and estate, nature, number, and amount of claim, date of filing claim, and notation of court orders. 1849-81, arr. by claim no.; 1882--., arr. alph. by name of estate. For index, 1849-81, see entry 286; 1882--., no index. 1849-55, hdw.; 1856--., hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 - 600 p. 17 x 11½ x 2 - 18 x 12 x 3. 1 v. not labeled, v. A-D, 1, 2, 1849-1912, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 3-5, 1913--., pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

286. INDEX TO PROBATE (Claim Docket), 1849-81. 1 v.

Index to Docket of Claims, entry 285, showing names of claimant and estate, date of filing claim, docket number, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of claimant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 30 p. 18 x 13 x ½. pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

287. DOCKET OF SETTLEMENTS DUE, 1878-82. 1 v.

Docket of administering persons' settlements due in probate cases, showing name of estate, name and address of administering person, and dates when report due and of approval. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 11 x 2½. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

288. PROBATE BLOTTER (Claims Docket), 1850-77. 7 v.

Probate blotter showing names of estate, claimant, and witnesses, amount and nature of claim, date of filing claim, and amounts of cost and judgment. Arr. by date of entry. 1850-73, no index; 1874-77, indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. Paper poor. 450 p. 17 x 11½ x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

289. PROBATE ESTATE DOCKET, 1852-72. 1 v.

Docket of estates in probate court, showing names of estate and administering person, date of letters, amount of bond, names of sureties and heirs, and date of filing will. Arr. by date of filing will. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. Paper poor. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Fee Books

290. CONSERVATORS' FEE BOOK, 1889--. 4 v. (1, 2, 1, 2). Title varies: Insane and Conservators. 1847-88 in Probate Fee Book, entry 293.

Record of fees earned and received in cases of conservatorships, showing names of incompetent and conservator, itemized list of fees, total amount of fees, and date and amount of payment. Also contains Insanity Fee Book, 1889-1907, entry 225. Arr. by date of initial fee. Indexed alph. by name of incompetent. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 3. V. 1, 2, 1889-1910, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 1, 2, 1911--, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

291. ADMINISTRATORS' AND EXECUTORS' FEE BOOK, 1911--. 13 v. 1847-1910 in Probate Fee Book, entry 293.

Record of fees charged and received in probating estates, showing names of estate, judge, and administering person, itemized list of fees, total amount of fees, and date and amount of payment. Arr. by date of initial fee. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 588 p. 18 x 13 x $3\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

292. GUARDIANS' FEE BOOK, 1911--. 2 v. (1, 2). 1847-1910 in Probate Fee Book, entry 293.

Record of fees collected in probate court in guardianship cases, showing date and amount of guardian's bond, date of oath, names of minor, guardian, and sureties, itemized list of fees, and date of payment. Arr. by date of initial fee. Indexed alph. by name of guardian. Hdw. 290 p. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 3. Pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

293. PROBATE FEE BOOK, 1847-1910. 14 v. (1 not lettered, A, B, B-L). Record of fees charged and collected in probate cases, showing case number, names of estate and administering person, itemized list of fees, date and amount of each fee, total fees, and date and amount of payment. Also contains Conservators' Fee Book, 1847-88, entry 290, including Insanity Fee Book, entry 225. Administrators' and Executors' Fee Book, entry 291, and Guardians' Fee Book, entry 292, subsequently kept separately. Arr. by date of initial fee. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

Receipts and Expenditures

294. CASH BOOK AND FEE REGISTER, 1911--. 6 v. (1, 2, 1 not numbered, 2-4). 1888-1910 in County Clerk's Register of Fees, entry 118.

Register of receipts and disbursements, showing date, amount, and purpose of receipt, fee book and page of entry, and date, amount, and purpose of disbursement. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. V. 1, 2, 1 not numbered, 1911-24, pro. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 2-4, 1925--, pro. clk.'s vlt., 1st fl.

VI. CIRCUIT COURT

The circuit court has original jurisdiction of all causes in law and equity and acts as a court of appeals in probate matters and causes cognizable by the county court and justices of the peace.¹ In addition, it is one of the courts capable of having naturalization jurisdiction according to Federal statutes.²

Originally, the circuit court was held in Rock Island County by justices of the Supreme Court.³ In 1835 the judiciary was reorganized and a circuit judge was appointed by the General Assembly for the district serving Rock Island County. All of the laws requiring Supreme Court justices to hold circuit courts were repealed by this legislation.⁴ The new plan of organization was in effect for a brief period of six years, for in 1841 additional associate justices of the Supreme Court were appointed by joint ballot of the General Assembly, which justices, together with the other justices of the Supreme Court, held the circuit courts.⁵ Then in 1849 another change was made in accordance with the second constitution which provided for the election of circuit judges by the judicial district electorate.⁶ The Constitution of 1870 altered the circuit districts and established population requirements for counties that may comprise a circuit.⁷ From 1849 to the present the circuit judges have been elected officers of the judicial district electorate. The fourteenth circuit is made up of four counties, one of which is Rock Island.⁸

Three circuit judges who serve for six-year terms are elected for the district. Before entering upon the duties of his office, each circuit judge is required to subscribe to an oath which he files with the Secretary of State.⁹ The salary for those circuit court judges elected after the first Monday of June, 1933 was set at \$7,200, and for those elected after

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12; L.1871-72, p. 109; R.S.1874, p. 344; L.1895, p. 189; L.1933, p. 688; L.1935, p. 1.
 2. 2 U.S.S.L. 155; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378-80; 34 U.S.S.L. 596; 37 U.S.S.L. 737; 44 U.S.S.L. 709.
 3. R.L.1829, p. 48.
 4. L.1835, p. 150,151.
 5. L.1841, p. 173; R.S.1845, p. 143.
 6. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7,15.
 7. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.
 8. L.1933, p. 436.
 9. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12; L.1933, p. 436.

Circuit Court

the first Monday of June, 1939 the amount was increased to \$8,000. The salaries are paid from the state treasury.¹

The hearings of several of the election contests are held before this court. Jurisdiction is granted to the court to hear and determine contests of the election of judges of the Supreme Court, judges of the circuit court, and members of the State Board of Equalization; but no judge of the circuit court is allowed to sit upon the hearing of any case in which he is a party.² The circuit court also hears and determines the election contests of some of the local and county offices. These include contests of judge of the county court, mayors of cities, president of the county board, presidents of villages, elections in reference to removal of county seats and in reference to any other subject which may be submitted to the vote of the people of the county. The circuit court has concurrent jurisdiction with the county court in cases of contested elections under the latter's jurisdiction.³

Included under the jurisdiction of the circuit court are also appeals from the Illinois Commerce Commission's rules, regulations, orders, or decisions. Such appeals may be taken to the circuit court serving Rock Island County when the subject matter of the hearing is situated in this county. The appeal may be heard for the purpose of having the reasonableness or lawfulness of the rule, regulation, order, or decision inquired into and determined.⁴

To expedite the handling of litigation, a branch circuit court may be held at the same time that the main or regular circuit court for Rock Island County is in session. A branch court is held by any circuit judge or by a judge of any other circuit called in for the purpose of hearing and deciding motions and settling the issues in any or all causes pending in the circuit court, and for the purpose of hearing chancery causes and cases at law which are pending in such court for that term. The presiding judge of the main circuit court assigns to the branch court as many of the law and chancery cases as the presiding judge of the branch court will possibly have time to hear.⁵

1. L.1933, p. 621; L.1937, p. 189,606. In 1835 the salary of the circuit judge was \$750 per annum (L.1835, p. 167). The Constitution of 1870 set the salary at \$3,000 until otherwise provided by law (Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 16). A few of the other changes were: from 1919 to 1925 for judges elected during this period, \$6,500; for the period 1925 to 1933, those elected received \$8,000 per year (L.1919, p. 553,554; L.1925, p. 400; L.1931, p. 148).

2. L.1899, p. 152.

3. L.1871-72, p. 396; L.1895, p. 170.

4. L.1921, p. 742,743.

5. L.1873-74, p. 82,83; L.1905, p. 146.

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Also, to aid in the speedy administration of justice, the judges, or a majority of them, may by an order entered of record in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, dispense with either or both the grand and petit juries for any term or part of term of the circuit court, and may designate what term or portion thereof shall be devoted to criminal business, and what term or portion thereof to civil business.¹

Each of the three judges of the circuit court is authorized to appoint one official shorthand reporter. This appointee is required to be skilled in verbatim reporting and is not allowed to hold more than one such official appointment. The appointment is in writing and is required to be filed in the office of the auditor of public accounts. The reporter holds office until his appointment is revoked by the appointing judge or until the termination of the judge's term. When the official reporter is absent or disabled, the presiding judge may appoint any other competent reporter to act during such absence or disability. The substitute is paid for his services by the official reporter. The reporter causes full stenographic notes of the evidence in all trials before the court to be taken down and transcript of the same to be correctly made if desired by either party to the suit, their attorneys, or the judge of the court. Each of the reporters receives and is paid out of the state treasury an annual salary of \$3,240. The salaries are paid out monthly on the warrant of the auditor of public accounts.²

The probation officer for adult probationers is an appointee of the circuit court.³ His services extend throughout the county. Courts exercising criminal or quasi-criminal jurisdiction are given power to release on probation, adult or juvenile offenders found guilty of committing certain specified offenses.⁴ In the performance of his prescribed duties, the probation officer principally serves the county and circuit courts. He is required to give bond as determined by the circuit court in a sum not exceeding \$5,000 and is subject to the rules of and removal by the appointing court.⁵ Rock Island County is allowed two probation officers under the allowance of one for each fifty thousand, or fraction thereof, of population.⁶

The probation officer is compensated at a rate determined by the county board. In the performance of his duties, he is required to investigate the cases of defendants requesting probation; notify the court of previous conviction or probation; make reports to the respective courts;

1. L.1835, p. 167,168; L.1933, p. 441,442.

2. L.1933, p. 463,464.

3. L.1911, p. 280.

4. Ibid., p. 277.

5. Ibid., p. 280,281; L.1915, p. 380,381.

6. L.1915, p. 380. School census to be basis for determining population.

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keep a set of records as described below; take charge of, and watch over, all persons placed on probation in his county, and all probationers moving from another county into his county. He is also required to notify probation officers in other counties of any probationers under his supervision who may move into those counties.¹

The reports made by the probation officer to the courts are kept by the clerk in the respective cases. The courts' probation records include orders granting or refusing release on probation, probationers' bonds, the reports of probation officers noted above, and discharge of probationers.

The probation officer is required to keep complete accurate records of investigated cases, including descriptions of the investigated persons, the action of the court, and the subsequent history of probationers. These are records open to inspection by any judge or by any probation officer pursuant to a court order and are not public records.²

Unlike the judges of the circuit court who are elected by the judicial district electorate, the clerk of this court is elected by the county electorate.³ This official performs the ministerial duties of the circuit court of Rock Island County and files and preserves its records as well as those of the branch circuit courts.⁴ He is commissioned by the Governor and before entering upon the duties of his office, gives bond with sureties which are approved by any two of the judges of the court. His bond is given in the sum of not less than \$5,000 as agreed upon by the judges. The oath to which he subscribes is filed with the Secretary of State.⁵ If a vacancy occurs in this office and the unexpired term does not exceed one year, the court is required to fill such vacancy by appointment of a clerk pro tempore. The appointee is then required to qualify for office in the same manner as the clerk of the circuit court. When the appointment is made, the court notifies the Governor of the filled vacancy. The Governor in turn, as soon as practicable, issues a writ of election for the circuit court clerk.⁶

The clerk of the circuit court was first appointed by the circuit judge in Rock Island County.⁷ He kept a record of all the oaths that he

1. L.1911, p. 281,282; L.1915, p. 381,382.

2. L.1911, p. 277-84; L.1915, p. 378-84.

3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7,21,22; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.

4. L.1905, p. 147.

5. R.S.1874, p. 260.

6. L.1873-74, p. 95.

7. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 146.

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administered and certified a copy annually to the Secretary of State.¹ The clerk preserved a complete record of all proceedings and determinations of the court of which he was clerk.² At each term of the circuit court, the clerk inquired into the condition of the treatment of prisoners and was required to see that all prisoners were humanely treated.³ This authority was in later years, and is at present, delegated to the circuit court.⁴ One of the early requisites of this office was for the clerk of the circuit court to reside near the county seat in order that he could attend to his duties daily. In the event that it were not possible for him to be in daily attendance, the presiding judge was to fill such vacancy.⁵ The Constitution of 1848 made the clerk of the circuit court an elective officer of the county with a four-year term. This arrangement has continued until the present.⁶

The clerk is able to perform the several duties of his office with the aid of his staff which consists of assistants and deputy clerks who are appointed by him in a number determined by rule of the circuit court.⁷ This order is entered as of record and the compensation of such assistants and deputies is set by the county board.⁸

Among the records kept by the clerk for the circuit court are the following:⁹

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court with alphabetical indexes by parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law, or when the court at the motion and assumption of expense by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, from an early date the court record has been broken down into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.

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1. L.1819, p. 349.
 2. R.L.1829, p. 44; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147.
 3. R.L.1827, p. 248.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1923, p. 424.
 5. R.L.1829, p. 35.
 6. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 7. L.1831, p. 49; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 8. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 9. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to the circuit court, subject to rules promulgated by the Supreme Court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court (L.1933, p. 736).

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2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records," intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.
4. A judgment and execution docket containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.
5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's, and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.
6. A fee book in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the case. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under such titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices', city, and foreign courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgments for liens, etc., from the former. Separate well-bound books are required to be kept for each city court. These books are to contain an alphabetical docket of all judgment decrees rendered in the city court. They also provide for entry of data relating to the filing of the transcript with the corresponding number of the transcript.¹
8. Naturalization proceedings from petitions to final certificates; Federal statutes allow the circuit court to exercise jurisdiction.
9. Reports to the court from its designated masters in chancery, the state's attorney, and the coroner's inquest juries.
10. Jury venires, summonses, certificates, etc.
11. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations. These documents are of particular importance because in a large number of cases the complete proceedings are not spread on court record.
12. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail, containing a list of all prisoners in his custody, showing causes of commitment and names of persons by whom committed.²

1. R.S.1874, p. 347; L.1901, p. 136,137.

2. R.L.1827, p. 217; R.S.1845, p. 323-26, 414,418,419,518; L.1865, p. 79, 80; R.S.1874, p. 262,263,339,616; L.1895, p. 217; L.1933, p. 442,678; 2 U.S.S.L. 153-55; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378-80; 34 U.S.S.L. 596-607, 709,710; 45 U.S.S.L. 1514,1515.

Proceedings of Court

295. INDEX TO LAW, PLAINTIFF-DEFENDANT, 1857--. 6 v. (1 not numbered, 2, plaintiff; 1 not numbered, 2, defendant; 2 not numbered, plaintiff-defendant). Title varies: Index to Court Record.

Index to Law (Files), entry 296; Law Records, entry 297; and common law cases as entered in Fee Book, Civil and Criminal, entry 329, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of action, term date of case commencement, and book and page of record and fee book. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 - 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3 - 18 x 18 x 4. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

296. LAW (Files), 1834--. 376 f.b.

Files of original papers in common law cases, including summonses, citations, petitions, bonds, affidavits, subpoenas, instructions to jury, writs, pleas, stipulations, and orders and decrees of court. Arr. by case no. 1834-56, no index; for index, 1857--, see entry 295. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13 - 12 x 17 x 35. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

297. LAW RECORDS, 1834--. 32 v. (1-6, 6-31).

Record of proceedings in common law cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, case number, term of court, date of proceedings, nature of cases, and orders of court. Also contains Criminal Record, 1834-57, entry 307. Arr. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index, 1857--, see entry 295. 1834-1930, hdw.; 1931--, typed. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

298. BRANCH COURT LAW RECORDS, 1909--. 3 v. (1-3).

Record of proceedings in branch court of common law cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, nature of case, case number, term of court, date of proceedings, court orders, and disposition of case. Arr. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Typed. 650 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

299. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS, CHANCERY, 1842--. 6 v. (1, 2, 1 not numbered, plaintiff; 1, 2, 1 not numbered, defendant).

Index to (Chancery Files), entry 300; Chancery Record, entry 301; and chancery cases as entered in Fee Book, Civil and Criminal, entry 329, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of action, term date of case commencement, and book and page of record and fee book. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 18 x 4. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

300. (CHANCERY FILES), 1842--. 626 f.b.

Files of original papers in chancery cases, including summonses, citations, petitions, bonds, affidavits, subpoenas, defendants' answers, writs of habeas corpus, bills for divorce, final orders of reversal, instructions to jury, stipulations, additional counts and declarations, bills of complaints, and orders and decrees of court. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 299. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

301. CHANCERY RECORD, 1842--. 69 v. (1-69).

Record of proceedings in chancery cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, case number, date of proceedings, nature of case, court orders, and disposition of case. Arr. by date of proceedings. For index, see entry 299. 1842-95, hdw.; 1896--, typed. 552 p. 18½ x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

302. BRANCH COURT CHANCERY RECORD, 1909--. 8 v. (1-8).

Proceedings of chancery cases in branch court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, nature of action, case number, term of court, date of proceedings, court orders, and disposition of case. Arr. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Typed. 600 p. 18½ x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

303. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS, CRIMINAL, 1858--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Index to (Criminal Documents), entry 304; Criminal Record, entry 307; and criminal cases as entered in Fee Book, Civil and Criminal, entry 329, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, type of action, term and date of commencement, and book and page of record and fee book. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

304. (CRIMINAL DOCUMENTS), 1834--. 144 f.b.

Original documents in criminal cases, including summonses, warrants, affidavits, bail bonds, instructions to jury, jury verdicts, appeals, probation reports, and orders of court. Also contains (Criminal Indictments), 1834-1900, 1902--, entry 305. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 303. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

305. (CRIMINAL INDICTMENTS), 1901. 1 f.b. 1834-1900, 1902-- in (Criminal Documents), entry 304.

Criminal indictments returned by grand jury, showing date, case number, nature of action, names of indicted person and witnesses for state, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 3 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

306. SUPPRESSED INDICTMENTS, 1878-1901. 1 f.b.

Suppressed indictments returned by grand jury. This file is not open to public inspection. 10 x 3 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

307. CRIMINAL RECORD, 1858--. 20 v. (1 not numbered, 2-20). 1834-57 in Law Records, entry 297.

Record of proceedings in criminal cases, showing name of defendant, cause, term date, case number, date of proceedings, notations of court orders, and disposition of case. Arr. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by name of defendant; for sep. index, see entry 303. 1858-97, hdw.; 1898--, typed. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. 1 v. not numbered, v. 2, 1858-76, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 3-20, 1877--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

308. EXECUTION, 1840--. 25 f.b.

Executions of judgment, showing case and execution numbers, amounts of fines, costs, sheriff's fees, and judgment, dates of execution and filing, names of defendant, sheriff, clerk, and witness, and certificate of sheriff's return. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. 1840-78, paper poor. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

309. MECHANICS' LIENS, 1889--. 9 f.b.

Mechanics' liens showing case number, description of property, amount and purpose of lien, date and kind of service, names of claimant and property owner, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

310. HABEAS CORPUS BEFORE THE JUDGE, 1853--. 2 f.b.

Papers in habeas corpus proceedings, including petitions, orders for issuance of writ, writs of habeas corpus, subpoenas for witnesses, and sheriff's return. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

311. RELEASES - ASSIGNMENTS OF JUDGMENTS, 1925--. 1 f.b.

Releases and assignments of judgments, showing date, nature of case, names of assignor and assignee, and amount of judgment. Arr. by date of instrument. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

312. RECALLING OF GRAND JURY, 1924--. 1 f.b.

Orders for recall of grand jury subsequent to dismissal, showing date of order, term of court, signature of judge, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

313. PETITION AND ORDER, 1926--. 1 f.b. Last petition 1930.

Petitions and orders directing county treasurer to turn over certain funds to general fund, showing name of petitioner, name and amount of fund, and dates of order and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Typed. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

314. (MISCELLANEOUS COURT PAPERS), 1847-93. 2 f.b.

File of miscellaneous papers, including writs of mittimus, bonds, state warrants, subpoenas, coroner's warrants and writs of mittimus, indictments, and uncalled for final naturalization papers. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. Paper in poor condition. 11 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

315. RAILROAD PAPERS, 1850-85. 2 f.b. No subsequent suits.

Papers in suits for railroad right of ways, showing nature of suit, orders of court, docket and certificate numbers, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., and hdw. on pr. fm. Paper in poor condition. 11 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 24. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Transcripts

316. TRANSCRIPT RECORD (Justice of Peace), 1878--. 4 v. (4, 8-10). Transcripts of judgments from justice of the peace courts, showing date of transcript, names of plaintiff, defendant, and justice, date of summons, name of summons server, allowance for services and mileage, amount of costs, constable's fees, abstract of proceedings, and affidavit of foreign officer. Arr. by date of transcript. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1878-1920, hdw.; 1921--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 14 x 3. Cir. clk.'s off., 3rd fl.

317. TRANSCRIPTS FROM MOLINE CITY COURT, 1915--. 2 f.b. Transcripts of judgments from Moline city court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and judge, type of action, amount of judgment, and dates of disposition of case and filing. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Dockets

318. INDEX TO COMMON LAW DOCKET, PLAINTIFF - DEFENDANT, 1837-67. 2 v. Index to Common Law (Docket), entry 319, and civil cases as entered in Judges' Docket, entry 324, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, term of court, date of commencing suit, and book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. 550 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

319. COMMON LAW (Docket), 1858-89, 1907--. 21 v. (5-15, 10 not numbered). Title varies; Civil Docket. 1837-57, 1890-1906 in Judges' Docket, entry 324. Docket of common law cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, type of action, date of filing suit, dates and notations of court orders, and book and page of record. Arr. by date of filing suit. For index, 1858-67, see entry 318; 1868--, no index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 570 - 1000 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 17 x 13 x 4. V. 5-15, 1858-89, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 10 v. not numbered, 1907--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

320. COMMON LAW DOCKET, 1860-80. 1 v. Docket of common law cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, kind of action, memoranda of court orders, docket number, and date of filing suit. This docket has been transcribed into Common Law (Docket), entry 319. Arr. by date of filing suit. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Writing faded, paper poor. 500 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

321. CHANCERY DOCKET, 1858-89, 1907--. 21 v. (6-12, 14 not numbered). 1837-57, 1890-1906 in Judges' Docket, entry 324. Docket of chancery cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, kind of action, date of filing suit, dates and notations of court orders, and book and page of record. Arr. by date of filing suit. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1000 p. 17 x 13 x 4. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

322. CRIMINAL DOCKET, 1858-89, 1907--. 10 v. (5-7, 7 not numbered). 1837-57, 1890-1906 in Judges' Docket, entry 324.

Docket of criminal cases, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, docket number, date of commencing case, and dates and notations of court orders. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 - 450 p. 17 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 17 x 13 x 4. V. 5-7, 1858-89, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 7 v. not numbered, 1907--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

323. COURT BLOTTER (Docket of Criminal Cases), 1858-66. 1 v.

Docket of pleas and proceedings in criminal cases, showing date of proceedings, names of plaintiff and defendant, nature of action, and notation of court orders. Arr. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 470 p. 17 x 11 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

324. JUDGES' DOCKET, 1837-57, 1890-1906. 46 v. (1 not numbered, 1, 3, 4, 42 not numbered). Missing: 1849-53. Title varies: Court Docket; Trial Docket.

Judges' docket of common law, chancery, and criminal cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, docket number, memorandum of court orders, and date of filing. Common Law (Docket), entry 319; Chancery Docket, entry 321; and Criminal Docket, entry 322, kept separately, 1858-89, 1907--. Arr. by docket no. For index to civil cases, 1837-57, see entry 318; 1858-1906, no index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 - 400 p. 17 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 14 x 10 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

325. CLERK'S DOCKET, 1866-1909. 5 v. Missing: 1869-70, 1875-89, 1895-1902.

Circuit clerk's docket of common law, chancery, and criminal cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, docket number, memoranda of court orders, and date of filing. Arr. by docket no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Binding and paper poor, writing faded. 350 p. 17 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

326. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1839--. 15 v. (7 not numbered, 9-16). Missing: 1849-56.

Docket of judgments in circuit court, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, sheriff's return, date, nature, and amount of judgment, book and page of record, amount of costs, fee book and page, and execution date. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. No index. 1839-48, hdw.; 1857--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 4. 7 v. not numbered, 1839-85, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 9-16, 1886--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

327. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1840--. 5 v. (3 not numbered, 6, 7). Missing: 1878-1909.

Docket of executions, showing execution number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date, nature, and amount of judgment, amount of costs, dates of execution and sheriff's return, and fee book and page. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. 3 v. not numbered, 1840-78, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 6, 7, 1910--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

328. MECHANIC LIEN (Docket), 1883--. 2 v. (1, 2).
Docket of mechanics' liens, showing names of property owner and claimant, description of property, nature of rendered service, date and amount of lien, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of property owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 520 p. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Fee Books

329. FEE BOOK, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL, 1885--. 41 v. (15-17, 19-25, 27-29, 31, 32, 35-47, 49-56, 56, 57, 57-59).
Record of fees charged and received in all circuit court cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, plaintiff's and defendant's costs, itemized account of fees, and date of payment. Arr. by date of initial fee. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. indexes to entries of common law, chancery, and criminal cases, see entries 295, 299, 303, respectively. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 15-17, 19-25, 27-29, 31, 32, 1885-1914, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 35-47, 49-56, 56, 57, 57-59, 1915--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Reports to Court (See also entries 304, 340, 341)

330. CORONER'S INQUEST, 1878--. 41 f.b.
Original inquest papers showing names of deceased, jurors, and coroner, places of death and inquest, names, addresses, and testimony of witnesses, and verdict of jury. Arr. alph. by name of decedent. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 5 x 10 x 24 - 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 x 17 $\frac{1}{2}$. 15 f.b., 1878-1919, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 26 f.b., 1920--, cor.'s off., 1st fl.

331. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S REPORT, 1913--. 1 f.b.
Quarterly reports of state's attorney, showing case number, names of defendant and court, amounts of fines and fees, total amount paid to county treasurer, and date of report. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 10 x 3 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

332. GRAND JURY REPORTS, 1912--. 1 f.b.
Reports to circuit court of matters coming before grand jury. This file is not open to public inspection. Arr. by date of report. No index. 10 x 3 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

333. REPORT OF PRISONERS IN JAIL, 1905-32. 1 f.b.
Sheriff's reports of county jail prisoners, showing date of report, name of prisoner, reason for imprisonment, and dates of commitment and release. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Jury Records
(See also entry 40)

334. GRAND JURY LISTS, 1904--. 1 f.b.

List of persons summoned for grand jury service, showing names and addresses of persons, term of court, and dates of filing and certification by county clerk. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

335. GRAND JURY SUBPOENAS, 1919--. 2 f.b.

Subpoenas issued for persons to testify before grand jury, showing date, name of summoned person, term of court, sheriff's return, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

336. JURY BOOK, 1911--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Register of jury certificates, showing name and address of juror, days of service, miles of travel, amount of fees, and date and number of jury certificate. Arr. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 19 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

337. JURY VENIRES, 1919--. 2 f.b.

Jury venires showing names of persons called for jury service, certification to county clerk, term of court, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Bonds

(See also entries 296, 300, 304, 351)

338. BONDS, 1887--. 3 f.b. Prior bonds filed with case papers.

Miscellaneous bonds, including appeal, replevin, bail, and recognizance bonds, showing names of principal and sureties, title and number of case, date, amount, and conditions of bond, and date of filing. Also contains Receivers' and Trustees' Bonds, 1887-94, entry 339. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

339. RECEIVERS' AND TRUSTEES' BONDS, 1895--. 2 f.b. 1887-94 in Bonds, entry 338.

Bonds of receivers and trustees appointed by court, showing number, names of principal and sureties, description of property, date, amount, and conditions of bond, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

340. MASTER'S BONDS AND REPORT, 1908--. 1 f.b.

Master-in-chancery bonds, showing names of master and sureties, date, amount, and conditions of bond, and date of filing; includes master's reports and certificates of master's bank deposits. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Circuit Court - Probation;
Naturalization

(341-346)

Probation
(See also entry 304)

341. REPORT OF W. A. GOLDEN, PROBATION OFFICER, 1915-19. 1 f.b.
Reports of W. A. Golden, probation officer, on cases admitted to probation in circuit court, showing nature and history of case, name of defendant, court order, recommendation of officer, and dates of court approval and report. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Subsequent reports filed with case papers.

Naturalization
(See also entries 243-246, 314)

342. FOREIGN WITNESS AFFIDAVITS, 1897--. 2 f.b.
Foreign witness affidavits in naturalization proceedings, showing name and address of witness, name of naturalization applicant, testimony, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

343. NATURALIZATION DEPOSITIONS, 1919--. 2 f.b.
Naturalization depositions filed in circuit court, showing date, testimony of witnesses, name and age of naturalization applicant, names of deposition taker and attorneys, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

344. NATURALIZATION INDEX, 1854--. 3 v.
Index to Naturalization Record, entry 345, and Declaration of Intention, entry 346, showing name of alien, dates of declaration, final oath, and filing, and book and page of record. Arr. alph. by name of alien. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 17 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

345. NATURALIZATION RECORD, 1854--. 21 v. (A, A, B, 1-18).
Missing: 1899-1905. Title varies: Petition and Record.
Copies of naturalization petitions and final certificates, showing names of petitioner, witnesses, and judge, renunciation of allegiance to foreign power and oath of allegiance to the United States, certificate of arrival, dates of arrival, petition, and final certificate, and petition and certificate numbers. Arr. by petition no. For index, see entry 344. 1854-1932, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1933--, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

346. DECLARATION OF INTENTION, 1860--. 15 v. (1 not numbered, 1-14).
Missing: 1874-1905.
Copies of naturalization declarations of intention, showing name, age, address, and nativity of alien, oath to renounce allegiance to foreign power, and date of declaration. Arr. by date of declaration. For index, see entry 344. 1860-1928, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1929--, typed on pr. fm. 1860-73, binding poor. 500 p. 12 x 10 x 2. 1 v. not numbered, v. 1-9, 1860-1919, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 10-14, 1920--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

347. MILITARY PETITIONS, 1918. 1 v.

Record of naturalization of soldiers stationed at Rock Island Arsenal during World War, showing name, nativity, and age of soldier, names of witnesses, military record, date of petition, and signature of applicant. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 14 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

348. NATURALIZATION RECORD SOLDIERS AND MINORS, DISCHARGED SOLDIERS, 1865-99. 1 v.

Copies of naturalization petitions and final certificates of minors and soldiers, showing petition number, names of petitioner, witnesses, and judge, renunciation of allegiance to foreign power and oath of allegiance to the United States, certificate of arrival, affidavit of minor's age, date of soldier's enlistment, and period of military service. Arr. by petition no. Indexed alph. by name of petitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 17 x 11 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Office Transactions

Receipts and Expenditures

349. REGISTER OF FEES, 1888--. 3 v. (2 not numbered, 2).

Register of circuit clerk's receipts and expenditures, showing name of payer or payee, and date and amount of transaction. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 17 x 15 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v. not numbered, 1888-1900, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v. not numbered, 2, 1901--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

350. MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS, 1911-28. 1 f.b.

Duplicate miscellaneous receipts for payment of fees for transcripts, certified copies of records, and fines, showing amount, name of payer, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

Court Business

351. ORDER APPOINTING PROBATION OFFICER AND BOND, 1920--. 1 f.b.

Orders of circuit court appointing probation officer, showing name and address of officer, term of office, dates of appointment and filing, and signature of judge; includes bonds of probation officer. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

352. APPOINTMENT OF COURT REPORTER, 1921--. 1 f.b.

Official appointments of court reporters by circuit judges, showing name and address of reporter, amount of compensation, dates of appointment and filing, and signature of judge. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Typed. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 3rd fl.

353. ATTORNEYS' RECEIPTS FOR COURT FILES, 1907-9. 1 v.
Attorneys' receipts for court files, showing title of case, name of attorney, date of receipt, date to be returned by attorney, actual date of return of files, and clerk's certificate of same. Arr. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

VII. SHERIFF

The sheriff, by constitutional provision, has been an elected officer in Rock Island County from the organization of the county, in 1833, to the present.¹ The term of his office, originally set at two years,² is now four years.³ In 1880 it was provided, by constitutional amendment, that no person elected to the office of sheriff should be eligible for re-election to that office until four years after the expiration of his term of office.⁴ His bond in this county is required in the sum of \$10,000 and must be approved by the county judge.⁵ Memoranda of this bond are entered at large upon the records of the county court, and the bond is filed in the office of the county clerk.⁶ One or more deputies are appointed by the sheriff in accordance with the number allowed by rule of the circuit court. Compensation of the deputies is determined by the county board.⁷ The sheriff is warden of the county jail and has custody and regulation of the same and of all prisoners.⁸ To assist him in this administration, he appoints a superintendent of the county jail for whose conduct he is responsible, and whom he may remove at pleasure.⁹

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; second amendment November 22, 1880, to the Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; also L.1819, p. 109,110; R.S.1874, p. 989.
 2. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 7.
 3. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 4. *Ibid.*, Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880.
 5. R.S.1874, p. 989. Cf. R.L.1827, p. 371. Prior to the organization of the county court, the sheriff's bond and securities were approved by the circuit court.
 6. R.S.1845, p. 514; R.S.1874, p. 989.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 373; R.S.1845, p. 515; L.1869, p. 399; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 8. L.1819, p. 111,112; R.L.1827, p. 247-50; L.1831, p. 103,104,106; R.L.1833, p. 574,575; L.1845, p. 8,10,19; R.S.1845, p. 133,134, 515-17; R.S.1874, p. 616,989-91; L.1901, p. 137,138; L.1923, p. 423-26. The citations also include references to duties not included in the general outline noted above.
 9. L.1923, p. 423.

Essentially without change for over one hundred years, the principal duties of the sheriff are the following:

1. To act as conservator of the peace, with power to arrest offenders on view.¹
2. To attend, in person or by deputy, all courts of record (city, county, probate, circuit, and appellate courts) in his county, and to obey the orders and directions of the courts.²
3. To serve, execute, and return all writs, warrants, process, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.³
4. To sell real or personal property by virtue of execution or other process.⁴
5. To send fingerprints of criminals to the State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation.⁵

In the course of the sheriff's many detailed duties included in these broad provisions, the following records may be kept but do not appear in Rock Island County:

1. Receipts of deliveries of prisoners in changes of venue.⁶
2. Copies of reports to the county court and circuit court.⁷
3. Reports of pawnbrokers on loans and articles pawned.⁸
4. Data of identification of criminals and stolen property.⁹

The following records may be kept and do appear:

1. Register of prisoners.¹⁰
2. "Book of Accounts," including records of fees and disbursements.¹¹
3. Docket of executions.
4. Process docket.

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1. R.L.1827, p. 372; R.S.1845, p. 515; R.S.1874, p. 990.
 2. Ibid.
 3. Ibid.
 4. R.L.1827, p. 334; L.1838-39, p. 14-18,20; R.S.1845, p. 302,306, 307; L.1871-72, p. 505-7; R.S.1874, p. 622,623,627-29.
 5. L.1931, p. 465.
 6. R.S.1874, p. 1096.
 7. Ibid., p. 617; L.1923, p. 424; L.1933, p. 678.
 8. L.1909, p. 301.
 9. L.1931, p. 465.
 10. R.S.1874, p. 617; L.1923, p. 424.
 11. L.1871-72, p. 450,451; L.1873-74, p. 104,105.

Process

354. SHERIFF'S DOCKET, 1881--. 15 v. (D, E, 7 not labeled, 1-6). Docket of sheriff's process service, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, case number, dates of issuance, receipt, service, and return of process, and amount of sheriff's fee. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. $21 \times 17\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ - $18 \times 12 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. V. D, E, 1881-1914, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 7 v. not labeled, v. 1-6, 1915--, sh.'s off., 1st fl.

355. NOTICES OF SHERIFF'S SALE, 1926--. 1 f.b. Notices of sheriff's sales, showing dates of notice and sale, description and location of property, and names of sheriff and deputy. Arr. by date of notice. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

356. DISMISSED MITTIMUS WRITS, 1926--. 2 f.b. Court orders directing sheriff to jail persons charged with law offenses, showing date of mittimus, name of law violator, nature of case, length of jail term, authority to hold prisoner, and signature of judge. Arr. by date of mittimus. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

357. CERTIFICATE OF LEVY, 1926--. 2 f.b. Sheriff's certificates of levy, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and sheriff, description of property, amount of levy, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

358. CLAIM FOR LIEN, 1926--. 1 f.b. Sheriff's copies of claims for liens, showing names of property owner and claimant, description of property, amount of debt owed, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

359. SHERIFF'S RETURNS, COPIES, 1926--. 1 f.b. Copies of returns from sheriff's office, showing case number, type of action, names of plaintiff and defendant, date of filing, and names of deputy and sheriff. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

360. FOREIGN SERVICE, 1936--. 2 f.b. Copies of writs served outside of Rock Island County, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and name of person serving writ, date and type of case, and dates of issuance and receipt. Arr. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

Sheriff - Bonds; Jail Records;
Fees, Receipts, Expenditures

(361-367)

Bonds

361. RECOGNIZANCE BOND, 1922--. 2 f.b.

Recognizance bonds showing names of defendant and sureties, date, amount, and conditions of bond, date of court appearance, and signature of sheriff. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 13 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 30. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

362. REPLEVIN BOND; INDEMNIFYING BOND, 1922--. 2 f.b. Title varies: Sheriff's Indemnifying Bond.

Replevin bonds and indemnifying bonds filed in sheriff's office, showing names of principal and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, and dates of acknowledgment, expiration, and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 13 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 20. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

Jail Records

363. JAIL CARDS, 1926--. 3 f.b.

Prisoners' jail record cards, showing name of prisoner, offense, verdict of court, term of sentence, and dates of commitment and filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 13 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 20. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

364. RECEIPTS, 1926--. 2 f.b.

Duplicates of receipts issued for prisoners' property, showing name of prisoner, description and amount of property, place of storage, and date of receipt. Arr. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 13 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 20. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

365. DISCHARGE AFTER COMMITMENT, 1926--. 1 f.b.

Judges' discharge notices to sheriff, showing names of prisoner and sheriff, nature of case, dates of notice and release, and signature of judge. Arr. by date of notice. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 13 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 20. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

366. JAIL BOARD REGISTER, 1921--. 2 v.

Register of prisoners, showing number, name, residence, nationality, color, age, weight, height, and color of eyes and hair of prisoner, date of commitment, name of court, days and total term served, and manner of discharge. Arr. by prisoner's no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 17 x 15 x 2. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

Fees, Receipts and Expenditures (See also entries 2, 36, 124[vii])

367. FINANCE SLIPS, 1926--. 1 f.b.

Memoranda on expense of conveying prisoners to state institutions, showing name and age of prisoner, nature of crime, length of prison term, amount of expenses, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 13 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 20. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

368. FEES IN COUNTY SERVICE, 1926--. 1 f.b.

Fee slips for sheriff's services in various courts, showing title of case, name of prisoner, days of court attendance, miles of travel, total amount of fees, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 20$. Sh.'s off., 1st fl.

369. REGISTER OF FEES, 1917-25. 2 v.

Register of all fees earned and received by sheriff, showing title of case, and date and amount of receipt. Arr. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 490 p. $17 \times 22\frac{1}{2} \times 3$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

VIII. CORONER

The coroner's office in Rock Island County has continued in existence from the organization of the county, in 1833, to the present.¹ The coroner is elected by the county electorate for a four-year term.² After certification of his election by the county clerk, filing of his bond, and taking oath of office, he receives his commission from the Governor.³ The coroner's bond in this county is required in the sum of \$5,000 and must be approved by the county judge.⁴ The inquest duties of this official have changed little over a period of more than a century. The coroner acts as a conservator of the peace with powers equal to those of sheriff in this respect and serves as a ministerial officer of the courts in the absence or disqualification of the sheriff; he also performs all the duties of the latter when the office is vacant.⁵

The most important function of the coroner is to hold inquests over the bodies of persons supposed to have come to their death by violence, casualty, or other undue means. When notification of such death is received, the coroner proceeds to the body, takes charge of it, and summons a jury composed of six men from the vicinity in which the

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; L.1849, Second Sess., p. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 2. The office is constitutional and elective (Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8). The term, formerly two years, is now four years (second amendment, November 22, 1880, to Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8).
 3. R.S.1845, p. 514; R.S.1874, p. 281.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 281.
 5. L.1819, p. 111,160; L.1821, p. 20-23; L.1825, p. 63,64; R.L.1827, p. 246-50, 372,373-75; R.S.1845, p. 515,517; R.S.1874, p. 281,282.

body was found. The jury is instructed to assemble at a stated time and place, to view the body and to inquire into the cause and manner of the death. If the inquest is continued and a vacancy should occur on the jury, the coroner is allowed to fill such vacancy.¹

To the custody of the clerk of the circuit court are returned the verdict of the jury, and such recognizances as may be given the coroner by witnesses whose testimony implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.² In his office, the coroner files and preserves the record of such testimony.³ The coroner also keeps one record which he originates, the "inquest record." This record recapitulates all the data involved in the entire inquest procedure and includes an inventory and accounting of the personal property and money of the deceased.

Deputy coroners appointed by this official assist him in the performance of the duties of his office. The number of deputies is set by rule of the circuit court, and their compensation is determined by the county board of supervisors. The bond or securities of these assistants are taken by the coroner and the oath to which each subscribes is filed in the county clerk's office.⁴

For other coroner's records, see entry 330.

370. CORONER'S RECORD, 1896--. 6 v. (2-7).

Record of coroner's inquests, showing date and place of inquest, name, residence, and description of deceased, names, residences, and occupations of witnesses, verdict of jury, inventory and disposition of personal effects, and names of coroner and undertaker. Arr. by date of inquest. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. on pr. fm. 596 p. 18 x 13 x 3. V. 2-4, 1896-1921, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 5-7, 1922--, cor.'s off., 1st fl.

371. CORONER'S FEE REGISTER, 1925--. 1 v.

Register of coroner's fees, showing name of decedent, dates and amounts of fees earned and received, and amount applied on salary and expenses of coroner. Arr. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 265 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Cor.'s off., 1st fl.

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1. L.1821, p. 22-24; R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; L.1879, p. 82; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 403,404; L.1931, p. 388,389.
 2. L.1821, p. 24,25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 283.
 3. L.1869, p. 104,105; R.L.1874, p. 283; L.1907, p. 213,214; L.1919, p. 293,294.
 4. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9; L.1881, p. 63.

IX. STATE'S ATTORNEY

In Rock Island County, since its organization in 1833, the state's attorney has commenced and prosecuted in courts of record all actions in which the people of the state or county were concerned.¹ This officer was appointed by the Governor until 1835, when he became an appointee of the General Assembly.² This latter provision remained effective until 1848, when the state's attorney became an elective officer of the circuit district electorate.³ At this time his services also were expanded to include the newly created county court. Finally, the present constitution made the office elective in and for each county.⁴ Bond in the sum of \$5,000 has been required since 1872.⁵ From the creation of this office in the state until the present, the state's attorney has continued to receive his commission from the Governor for the tenure of his office.⁶ In 1827 his appointment was set at a four-year term;⁷ in 1835 his term was set at two years.⁸ Then, in 1849, the state's attorney's office became elective by the district electorate for a four-year term, the first term, however, being only for three years and ending in 1852.⁹ In Rock Island County the state's attorney receives an annual salary of \$7,500, with an additional \$400 paid by the state. Statutory fee rates are allowed him for convictions on specified offenses and crimes before justices of the peace, police magistrates, county and circuit courts. Also, rates are established for preliminary examinations of defendants, for attendance at trials, and for appeals. These several fees and rates make up a county fund from which is paid his salary.¹⁰

The duties of the state's attorney are the following:

1. To commence and prosecute all actions, suits, indictments, and prosecutions, civil or criminal, in any court of record in his county in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.

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1. R.L.1827, p. 79,80; L.1835, p. 44; R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 173, 174.
 2. L.1835, p. 44.
 3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21.
 4. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; R.S.1874, p. 172.
 5. L.1871-72, p. 189.
 6. R.L.1833, p. 98; L.1835, p. 44; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 28; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; R.S.1874, p. 172.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 79,80.
 8. L.1835, p. 44.
 9. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.
 10. L.1871-72, p. 422; L.1873-74, p. 104,105; L.1909, p. 231-33; L.1929, p. 474-76; L.1937, p. 607.

2. To prosecute all forfeited bonds and recognizances and all actions and proceedings for the recovery of debts, revenues, moneys, fines, penalties, and forfeitures accruing to the state or his county, or to any school district in his county; also to prosecute all suits in his county against railroads or transportation companies, which may be prosecuted in the name of the people of the State of Illinois.
3. To commence and prosecute all actions and proceedings brought up by any county officer in his official capacity.
4. To defend all actions and proceedings brought against his county or against any county or state officer, in his official capacity, in his county.
5. To attend the examination of all persons brought before any judge on habeas corpus when the prosecution is in his county.
6. To attend before justices of the peace and prosecute charges of felony or misdemeanor for which the offender is required to be recognized and to appear before a court of record when it is within his power to do so.
7. To give his opinion without fee or reward, to any county officer or justice of the peace in his county upon any question of law relating to any criminal or other matter in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
8. To assist the Attorney General whenever it may be necessary, and in cases of appeal or writ of error from his county to the Supreme Court, to which it is the duty of the Attorney General to attend, he shall, a reasonable time before the trial of such appeal or writ of error, furnish the Attorney General with a brief, showing the nature of the case and the questions involved.
9. To pay all moneys received by him in trust, without delay, to the officer who by law is entitled to their custody.
10. To perform such other and further duties as may from time to time be enjoined upon him by law.
11. To appear in all proceedings by collectors of taxes against delinquent taxpayers for judgment to sell real estate, and to see that all the necessary preliminary steps have been legally taken to make the judgment legal and binding.¹

1. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 172-74.

Supervisor of Assessments

12. To enforce the collection of all fines, forfeitures, and penalties imposed or incurred in the courts of record in his county; and to report to the circuit court on the collection of these moneys.¹

For state's attorney's reports to the circuit court, see entry 331.

X. SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS

The county supervisor of assessments, with the aid of the township assessors in Rock Island County, is responsible for the assessment of property upon which the township, district, county, state, and other taxes are levied. Principally, these officers annually revise the assessment of property, correct the same upon complaint, and quadrennially assess real and personal property.² Many statutory provisions have regulated this function in Rock Island County. Early laws fixed the value of the several categories of real and personal property, leaving to the assessing officer only limited discretion.³

Property assessments in Rock Island County were first made by the county treasurer, an appointee of the county commissioners' court.⁴ The treasurer continued to act in this capacity until 1839 when the legislature provided for the appointment by the county commissioners' court of district assessors.⁵ The duty of property assessment reverted to the county treasurer again in 1844⁶ and continued to be vested in that office until 1857 when township organization was instituted in this county,⁷ and assessments were made by township assessors, elected one in each township annually.⁸

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1. L.1909, p. 406; L.1911-12, p. 89; L.1929, p. 475.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 20-22; L.1879, p. 243; L.1881, p. 134; L.1891, p. 187; L.1898, p. 37,40,44; L.1903, p. 295,296; L.1923, p. 491,492,504,505; L.1927, p. 713,714; L.1928, Sp. Sess., p. 106; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 66.
 3. L.1819, p. 313-19; L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4-6; L.1840, p. 4; L.1845, p. 6.
 4. R.L.1827, p. 330.
 5. L.1839, p. 4.
 6. L.1843, p. 231,237. Effective in 1844.
 7. Rock Island County adopted township organization in 1856, but the change was not effective until 1857.
 8. L.1851, p. 38,54-57; L.1853, p. 14,15; L.1855, p. 35,37; L.1871-72, p. 20-24.

Between 1849 and 1898, the assessing officers in Rock Island County received their assessment lists from, and reported assessments to, the county clerk.¹ In the latter year, the legislature provided that the county treasurer should be ex-officio supervisor of assessments.² From that date until the present, the township assessors have worked under the direction of, and reported the assessment of property to, the county treasurer, acting in this ex-officio capacity. Every assessor is bonded in the sum of \$500. Bond for the supervisor of assessments is \$2,000 or such larger sum as the county board may determine.³

For other taxation records, see entries 2, 26, 41-66, 203, 208, 210, 211, 374-389, 423, 425, 426.

372. RAILROAD, TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH (Schedules), 1895--. 5 f.b.

(26, 29, 33, 2 not numbered). Title varies: Tax Schedules. Tax schedules of railroad, telephone, and telegraph company properties, showing name of company, legal description of real estate, amount of rolling stock, miles of track, total value, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 3 x 15. F.b. 26, 29, 33, 1895-1918, co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 2 f.b. not numbered, 1919--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

373. PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULES, 1936--. 70 f.b.

Personal property tax schedules, showing name of property owner, itemized list of property, value of each item, date of filing, and signature of assessor. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 x 10. Treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

XI. BOARD OF REVIEW

An important aspect of the revenue procedure is the authority, exercised by the board of review, to assess, equalize, and review or revise the assessment of property.⁴ Early legislation provided for

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1. L.1849, p. 121,128; ibid., Second Sess., p. 38; L.1853, p. 14,17,47, 49,50; L.1871-72, p. 19,20,22,23.
 2. L.1898, p. 36,37.
 3. Ibid., p. 38,39; L.1923, p. 493,494; L.1927, p. 743,744.
 4. L.1898, p. 46-49; L.1915, p. 566-70; L.1919, p. 727; L.1923, p. 496-502; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 85-90; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 71,75-78; L.1935, p. 1163-66.

appeals from assessments to the county commissioners' court. The court was empowered to review and revise assessments on real and personal property.¹

In 1849, when the county court succeeded the county commissioners' court in Rock Island County, appeals were made to that body.² When township organization was instituted in 1857³ this jurisdiction was given in each town to a board composed of the township supervisor, clerk, and assessor.⁴ The board of supervisors in their annual meeting examined the assessment rolls in the several towns to ascertain whether the valuations in one town bore just relation to the valuations in all other towns in the county, and were empowered to increase or diminish the aggregate valuation of real estate in any town accordingly. They could make whatever alterations in the description of the lands of nonresidents they deemed necessary, and were required to assess the value of any lands omitted by the assessor.⁵ In 1872 the duties of the board of supervisors with regard to assessments were the following:

1. To assess omitted property.
2. To review assessments upon complaint.
3. To hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation.
4. To ascertain whether the valuation in one town or district bore just relation to the valuation in all towns or districts in the county and adjust the assessment.⁶

In 1898 this authority was transferred to the newly created board of review, composed of the chairman of the county board who became ex-officio chairman of the board of review, the county clerk, and one citizen appointed by the county judge.⁷ Since 1923 the board has consisted of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman of the board of review, and two citizens appointed by the county judge. The members of the board select their own clerk. The two citizen members are appointed alternately for a two-year term.⁸

Today, the board of review in Rock Island County is required to assess taxable property omitted from the regular assessment, to review and correct assessments on property claimed to be incorrectly assessed, to increase

1. L.1839, p. 7; L.1843, p. 237; L.1845, p. 8; R.S.1845, p. 441.

2. L.1849, p. 65.

3. Rock Island County adopted township organization in 1856, but the change was not effective until 1857.

4. L.1851, p. 56; L.1871-72, p. 21,22,24,25.

5. L.1851, p. 57,58; L.1871-72, p. 24,25.

6. L.1871-72, p. 24,25.

7. L.1898, p. 46.

8. L.1923, p. 496,497; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 71,72.

Collector

or reduce the entire assessment if, in their opinion, it has not been made upon the proper basis, to hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation, and to correct errors or mistakes, except errors of judgment, as to the valuation of any property, any time before judgment.¹

For docket of complaints to the board of review, see entries 208, 211; for other taxation records, see entries 2, 26, 41-66, 203, 210, 372-389, 423, 425, 426.

XII. COLLECTOR

Tax collections in Rock Island County were first made by the sheriff acting as ex-officio county collector.² With the exception of the period from 1839 to 1844, when there existed a separate office of county collector filled by appointment by the county commissioners' court,³ the sheriff continued to act in this capacity until 1857; in that year township organization was instituted in this county,⁴ and tax collections became the joint responsibility of the townships and the county, with the county treasurer acting as ex-officio county collector.⁵

Under this plan, town collectors, elected one in each township,⁶ made collections of resident property taxes,⁷ while nonresident and delinquent taxes were collected by the county treasurer.⁸ By the terms of an act of 1855, the town collectors were required to return their tax lists or books to the county collector who delivered them to the county clerk.⁹ This provision was changed in 1872 by an act of the General Assembly which provided that the county collector should make an annual sworn statement to the county clerk, showing the total amount

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1. L.1838, p. 46-49; L.1835, p. 566-70; L.1819, p. 727; L.1923, p. 496-502; L.1830, Sp. Sess., p. 85-90; L.1831-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 70,71,75-78; L.1935, p. 1163-66.
 2. R.L.1827, p. 370,374.
 3. L.1838-39, p. 7.
 4. L.1843, p. 234; L.1853, p. 99. Rock Island County adopted township organization in 1856, but the change was not effective until 1857.
 5. L.1851, p. 38,59-64; L.1853, p. 67.
 6. L.1851, p. 38.
 7. Ibid., p. 59.
 8. Ibid., p. 53.
 9. L.1855, p. 37.

Collector

of each kind of tax collected, the amount received from each town collector, and the amount collected by himself.¹

The collection procedure in Rock Island County was altered in 1917 when the legislature provided for the abolishment of the office of town collector in counties with fewer than one hundred thousand inhabitants, the county collector to be ex-officio town collector in such counties.² As Rock Island County never attained this population minimum,³ the county collector has continued to make collections for the townships as well as for the county.⁴

The county collector is bonded in an amount determined upon by the county board in addition to that bond required of him as county treasurer.⁵ Under statutory provisions, he collects taxes for the state, county, and other governmental agencies, and pays to the proper authorities the amount in his hands payable to them.⁶ He also settles annually with the county board.⁷ He prepares an annual list of delinquent property and files it with the county clerk,⁸ advertises his intention of applying for judgment for sale of delinquent lands and lots,⁹ and is required to attend, in person or by deputy, all tax sales resulting from this action.¹⁰ The county clerk, in person or by deputy, is also required to attend all tax sales.¹¹ At such sales, the clerk and collector note and make entry of all tax sales and forfeitures to the state.¹²

The county collector is required to keep his records as collector of taxes separate from his records as county treasurer.¹³ The records of the collector's office include duplicates of receipts issued to taxpayers, state

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1. L.1871-72, p. 56,57; L.1873-74, p. 56; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 66,67; L.1931, p. 756; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 112; L.1933, p. 873, 921; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 220; L.1935, p. 1156,1213; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 69,70.
 2. L.1917, p. 793.
 3. The population of Rock Island County was 70,404 in 1910; 92,297 in 1920; and 98,191 in 1930 (Population Bulletin, p. 9).
 4. L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774,775; L.1931, p. 905-8; L.1933, p. 1115, 1116.
 5. L.1871-72, p. 36; L.1931, p. 748; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 85, 86; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 225,226.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 56-59; L.1933, p. 922; L.1935, p. 1156,1213; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 68,69.
 7. L.1871-72, p. 55; L.1935, p. 1155,1156.
 8. L.1898, p. 51; L.1931, p. 759.
 9. L.1871-72, p. 44; L.1937, p. 1010.
 10. L.1871-72, p. 48; L.1930, First Sp. Sess., p. 64.
 11. L.1871-72, p. 48.
 12. Ibid.; L.1933, p. 886.
 13. L.1917, p. 664,665; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 60-62; L.1935, p. 1149-58.

auditor's and county clerk's certifications of the collector's settlements with them, duplicates of the collector's reports, delinquent property records, and tax sale and forfeiture records.

For other taxation records, see entries 2, 26, 41-66, 203, 208, 210, 211, 372, 373, 423, 425, 426.

Collection

374. TAX RECEIPTS, 1935--. 12 f.b., 82 bdl.

Duplicates of county collector's official tax receipts and first and second notices of current taxes due, showing name of property owner, legal description of property, and amount and date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Typed on pr. fm. F.b. 8 x 11 x 24; bdl. 6 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

375. PAGE AND LINE BOOK, 1921--. 78 v.

Register of tax collections, showing number of receipt, page and line of collector's books, names of property owner and township, amount of taxes with costs and interest, amount of payment, and daily totals of collections. Arr. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 14 x 14 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 73 v. 1921-35, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 5 v., 1936--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

376. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT JOURNALS, 1915-33. 55 v.

Lists of special assessment collections, showing owner's name, warrant number, legal description of property, number of feet for which assessed, amount of assessment, number of installments, interest, total, date of payment, and name of payer. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 - 500 p. 15 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 17 x 13 x 4. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

377. (COLLECTIONS), 1928-31. 1 v.

Daily journal of tax collections from each township, showing name of township, date of collection, and amounts of tax, interest, and total collections, Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. 73 p. 16 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

378. TOWNSHIP CASH TAX BOOK, 1922-25. 18 v. (South Moline Township, 1922-25, 4 v.; Hampton Township, 1923-25, 3 v.; Andalusia, Bowling, Buffalo Prairie, Canoe Creek, Coal Valley, Coe, Cordova, Edgington, Port Byron, Rural, and Zuma townships, 1925, 1 v. each).

Record of tax collections in each township, showing date of payment, page and line of collector's book, name of payer, tax spread, and total tax. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 18 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

379. COLLECTOR'S BOOK, 1872-1914. 1 v.

Register of collector's receipts from individuals and corporations, showing amount and date of payment, name of payer, and purpose of payment. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 480 p. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

380. (ABSTRACT OF COLLECTIONS), 1875-82. 2 v.

Abstracts of tax collections made by county collector, showing abstract for each township, page and line of collector's book, tax spread, and total collections. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 17 x 11 x 1½. 1 v., 1875-76, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1877-82, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

381. TAX COLLECTED, 1857-80. 3 v. (1 not lettered, A, 1 not lettered).

Title varies: Collector's Accounts; Treasurer's Book.

County collector's accounts with town collectors, showing names of township and collector, amounts of tax collections, delinquencies, and commissions, and amount paid to county treasurer. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. 1857-59, hdw.; 1860-80, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 - 400 p. 14 x 9 x 1 - 16 x 11 x 2. 1 v. not lettered, 1857-59, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. A, 1 not lettered, 1860-80, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

382. MEMORANDUM OF TAX COLLECTED, 1876-79. 1 v.

Memoranda of taxes collected by town collectors, showing names of township and collector, amounts of tax collection, delinquency, and commission, and amount paid to county treasurer. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 16½ x 10 x 1½. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

Settlement

383. COUNTY COLLECTOR'S STATEMENT OF ERRORS, 1893--. 2 v.

Copies of statements of errors in assessments and footings in collector's books for which collector asks credit, with statements of forfeitures, showing name of property owner, legal description of property, tax spread and total amount. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 1893-1922, binding and paper poor. 200 p. 14 x 10½ x 1½. 1 v., 1893-1922, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1923--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

384. SETTLEMENT RECORD, 1917--. 10 v. (16-25).

Record of collector's partial settlements with county clerk, showing date of statement, total of each tax received, total amount paid under protest, and certification of collector. Arr. by date of settlement. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 17 x 18 x 3. V. 16-20, 1917-27, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; v. 21-25, 1928--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

385. AFTER SETTLEMENT, 1926--. 6 v.

Record of county collector's settlement with county clerk of taxes collected after final settlement, showing amount collected for each kind of tax, total tax collection, name of property owner, legal description of property, and certification of collector. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 120 p. 14 x 11 x 1. 4 v., 1926-32, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 2 v., 1933--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

Delinquent Lists

Real Property

386. FORFEITURE, 1921--. 8 v.

Lists of property forfeited for unpaid taxes, showing page and line of collector's book, name of township, tax spread, penalties, and total tax. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. 75 p. 16 x 14 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. 7 v., 1921-32, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1933--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

387. TAX SALE RECORD, 1927--. 10 v.

Record of tax sales, showing names of property owner, purchaser, and township, amounts of delinquent tax, costs, and sale, legal description of property, page and line of collector's book, due date of tax, and date of sale. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 15 x 14 x 1. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

388. DELINQUENT LISTS, 1875-1921. 4 v. Missing: 1877-1915.

Lists of delinquent real estate taxes, showing name of property owner, tax spread, total tax, and page and line of collector's book. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 32 - 250 p. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 17 x 11 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1875-77, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 3 v., 1916-21, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

Personal Property

389. PERSONAL PROPERTY ABATEMENT LIST, 1907--. 11 v. Missing: 1908-15.

Lists of abatements on personal property taxes, showing name of property owner, tax spread, and total tax. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 135 - 160 p. $16\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 17 x $13\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1907, cir. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.; 9 v., 1916-32, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1933--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

XIII. TREASURER

In Rock Island County the treasurer was first appointed by the county commissioners' court.¹ From 1837 to the present the treasurer has been elected by the people of the county,² and is commissioned by the Governor

1. R.L.1827, p. 329; R.L.1833, p. 514-16.

2. R.L.1837, p. 49,274; L.1845, p. 28; R.S.1845, p. 137; L.1851, p. 144; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.

for a four-year term.¹ In 1880, by amendment to the Constitution of 1870, it was provided that no treasurer be eligible for reelection to the office until four years after the expiration of his term of office.² The penal sum of the treasurer's bond and his securities are determined by the county board.³ Upon request of the treasurer, the board designates the bank in which the public funds are to be deposited.

In the performance of his duties, the treasurer receives the county revenue, has custody of its funds, and disburses them in accordance with orders of the county board or specific authorization by law. He is required to keep books of accounts of all funds received and disbursed by him, to maintain a register of county orders countersigned and paid, to report annually to the county board on the financial transactions of his office, and to settle his accounts with the board semiannually.⁴ The last two requirements give rise to a number of segregated records of accounts beyond strict statutory requirements. In addition, reports are made to the treasurer by other county, district, public, and semipublic authorities in the process of transacting business with him; and, finally, a large number of records arise from the requirement for collectors of taxes to settle their accounts with the treasurer.⁵

The treasurer acts as ex-officio treasurer of the special drainage district.⁶

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1. The term was set at four years in 1837 (R.L.1837, p. 274); it was later reduced to two years (L.1845, p. 28; L.1851, p. 144). The office was made constitutional in 1870 without change of term (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8). Then in 1880, the term was lengthened to four years (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8 as amended November, 1880).
 2. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880.
 3. R.L.1827, p. 329; R.S.1874, p. 323. The bond is required to be filed in the office of the county clerk.
 4. R.L.1837, p. 582,583; L.1843, p. 151; R.S.1845, p. 137-39; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 5. R.L.1827, p. 330-33; L.1839, p. 8-10; L.1845, p. 11; L.1895, p. 304; L.1913, p. 516; L.1933, p. 898.
 6. L.1885, p. 78,104.

Treasurer - General Accounts;
Special Accounts

(390-394)

General Accounts

Registers and Ledgers (See
also entry 15)

390. REGISTER OF COUNTY ORDERS COUNTERSIGNED, 1905--. 8 v. (7, 11, 1 not numbered, 12-14, 1905-28; 2 not numbered, 1934--); 4 bdl. (1928-34). Missing: 1911-18.

Register of county orders issued by county clerk and countersigned by county treasurer, showing names of payee and fund upon which drawn, amount, date, and purpose of order, and date of payment. Bundles are wrapped loose-leaf sheets. Also contains Pay Roll Records, 1905-17, 1934--, entry 391. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. V. 473 - 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 - 12 x 18 x 3; bdl. 11 x 17 x 2. V. 7, 11, 1 not numbered, 12-14, 4 bdl., 1905-34, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 2 v. not numbered, 1934--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

391. PAY ROLL RECORDS, 1918-33. 6 v. 1905-17, 1934-- in Register of County Orders Countersigned, entry 390.

Register of salary orders issued to county employees, showing name of employee, amount of payment, employee's classification, and date of payment. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 314 p. 16½ x 15 x 3. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

Cash Book

392. CASH BOOK, 1917-33. 2 v.

Daily record of cash transactions of county treasurer, showing dates and amounts of disbursements, names of payer and payee, titles of credited and debited funds, and balance on hand. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 160 p. 17 x 24 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., bsmt.

Special Accounts

School

393. INSTITUTE FUND RECORD (Register), 1909--. 1 v. (2).

Register of county school superintendent's transactions with teachers' institute fund, showing dates and amounts of receipts and disbursements, names of payer and payee, and balance on hand. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

394. NON-HIGH SCHOOL RECORD, 1919--. 1 v. (1).

Register of receipts and disbursements of non-high school funds, showing dates and amounts of receipts and disbursements, names of payer and payee, and balance. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 14 x 18 x 2. Treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

Probate

395. TRUST FUND RECORD, 1863--. 1 v. (1).

Accounts of funds of unlocated heirs deposited in trust with county treasurer, showing date and amount of deposit, names of estate, unlocated heirs, and depositor, date and amount of payment, and name of payee. Arr. alph. by name of estate. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Treas.'s off., end fl.

Inheritance Tax

396. INHERITANCE TAX RECORDS, 1923--. 4 v.

Record of inheritance tax determinations and payments, showing date of court order fixing tax, names of beneficiaries, relationship of beneficiaries to deceased, description of property, appraised, fair market, and taxable cash values, rate of tax, statutory exemptions, amount of tax, name of appraiser, and date of payment. Arr. by date of court order. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 145 p. 17 x 18 x 3. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Pension (See
also entries 21, 239)

397. PENSION ACCOUNT BOOK, 1913--. 2 v. Title varies; Mothers' Pension Act.

Account of payments to mothers from mothers' pension fund, showing name of mother, names and ages of children, date of court decree, date of each payment, number and amount of order, and memorandum of findings of court in each case. Arr. by date of court decree. Indexed alph. by name of mother. Hdw. on pr. fm. 294 p. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1913-27, treas.'s vlt., bsmt.; 1 v., 1928--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

XIV. AUDITOR

In 1911 the General Assembly enacted legislation requiring all counties under township organization with a population of more than seventy-five thousand and less than three hundred thousand to elect, in November, 1912, and every four years thereafter, a county auditor.¹ Rock Island County attained the population minimum in 1920, however, the office was not established until 1932. As provided in the act, compensation is in such sum as the county board may set.² Since 1925 by an

1. L.1911, p. 242,243.
2. Ibid., p. 242.

amendment to the original law, the county auditor has been required to furnish such bond as is deemed sufficient by the county board, which bond is filed with the county clerk.¹

The auditor is charged with the following duties:

1. To audit all claims against the county, recommending to the county board their payment or rejection.
2. To collect statistical information with respect to the cost of maintenance of such institutions as the county farm, jail, workhouse, and courthouse.
3. To approve, before issuance, all orders of county officials for supplies.
4. To make a quarterly audit of all county offices.²

He is also required to keep a record of all contracts entered into by the county board and all authorized county officers, to report quarterly to the board all fees and emoluments due the county from its various officers, and to keep necessary records of his other acts in pursuance of the duties of his office.³

398. AUDITS, 1937--. 1 f.b.

Work sheets for preparation of audits from each county office, showing amount of fees and commissions collected, salaries of clerks and officers, miscellaneous expenditures, and date of filing. Auditor's annual reports are compiled from these work sheets. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Typed. 11 x 16 x 27. Aud.'s off., 1st fl.

399. COMMITTEES REPORT, Dec. 1936--. 2 f.b.

Reports of various committees on claims presented for payment, showing name of claimant, date and amount of claim, and approval and signatures of committee. Arr. alph. by title of committee. No index. Typed. 11 x 16 x 27. Aud.'s off., 1st fl.

400. PAID BILLS, Dec. 1936--. 4 f.b. Title varies: Current Claims; Miscellaneous.

Bills and claims approved and passed for payment by county board, showing name of claimant, and amount and date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of claimant. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 16 x 27. Aud.'s off., 1st fl.

1. L.1925, p. 263.

2. L.1911, p. 242.

3. Ibid., p. 242,243.

401. LETTERS, Dec. 1936--. 1 f.b.

General correspondence relating to county business including letters from county officials and bonding companies. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. No index. Typed. 11 x 16 x 27. Aud.'s off., 1st fl.

402. REPORT OF COUNTY AUDITOR, 1936--. 3 pamphlets.

Copies of annual reports of county auditor to taxpayers, showing list of county employees, total receipts and disbursements of each county office and of general county and county home and farm funds, and statement of amount of insurance carried by county. No obvious arr. No index. Planographed. 20 p. 11 x 8½ x ½. Aud.'s off., 1st fl.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The first county school official in Rock Island County was the county school commissioner.¹ The principal duties of this officer, an appointee of the county commissioners' court, centered around the sale of school lands. His reports of these sales were made to the county commissioners' court and recorded by their clerk in a well-bound book kept for that purpose.² The school commissioner also reported to the county commissioners' court on his other transactions in regard to the school fund.³ His office became elective in 1841.⁴ In 1845 the office of county superintendent of schools was created as an ex-officio office of the county school commissioner.⁵ For his ex-officio duties as superintendent of schools, the commissioner received additional compensation for the days actually engaged in the performance of these duties.⁶ Beginning with the year 1847, the school commissioner was elected for a two-year term.⁷ In 1865 the office of county superintendent of schools was established as an independent office, and had delegated to it the authority formerly vested in the county school commissioner.⁸

The superintendent of schools is a statutory office, now elective for a term of four years.⁹ The superintendent's office serves as the central school administrative agency for the county. One or more of the

1. R.L.1829, p. 150,151.

2. Ibid., p. 152,153; L.1849, p. 155,156,159,160; L.1851, p. 130.

3. L.1831, p. 175.

4. L.1841, p. 261,262.

5. L.1845, p. 54.

6. L.1849, p. 178; L.1867, p. 161.

7. L.1847, p. 120; L.1849, p. 154.

8. L.1865, p. 112; L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1889, p. 312; L.1909, p. 343.

9. L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1909, p. 343; L.1915, p. 628; L.1923, p. 596.

several congressional townships comprise the several school districts. Within these administrative units are elected boards of trustees who have executive and financial responsibilities which come under the supervision of the county superintendent.¹ The boards of trustees appoint their own treasurers who also act as clerks of the township (or school district) boards.²

The superintendent makes quarterly and annual reports to the county board and also reports to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Department of Public Health, the state fire marshal, and the state architect. His original duties are the following:

1. To sell township fund lands and issue certificates of purchase.
2. To examine the complete accounts of every township treasurer in his county and report irregularities to the township trustees.
3. To conduct a teachers' institute, hold quarterly examinations for teachers' certificates, and issue such.
4. To hold examinations for normal and university scholarships.
5. To visit the public schools in the county, observe methods of instruction, make recommendations to teachers, and advise school officers; to observe sanitary and safety conditions, and notify trustees and state authorities of unsatisfactory conditions; to inspect plans and specifications, and approve those meeting state regulations.³

A noteworthy undertaking of the superintendent of schools is the annual teachers' institute. Pioneer legislation of 1869 provided that the school directors were to allow school teachers to attend the teachers' institute in their county without the loss of time or pay.⁴ Twenty years later, the superintendent of schools was required to hold the institute annually.⁵ A fund was set up for this purpose which has continued to be made up of the fees received from applicants for teachers' certificates and from teachers' registration. Money from the fund is paid out only on the order of the superintendent to defray the expenses of the annual institute. When the fund exceeds the annual cost of the institute, the excess may be paid out for special meetings of teachers.⁶

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1. L.1847, p. 126; L.1909, p. 350; L.1929, p. 745.
 2. L.1927, p. 843; L.1929, p. 745.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 498,499; L.1847, p. 122; L.1849, p. 156; L.1853, p. 246, 247; L.1855, p. 66,67; L.1861, p. 190,191; L.1865, p. 119,120; L.1909, p. 347-50; L.1915, p. 636-38.
 4. L.1869, p. 394.
 5. L.1889, p. 312.
 6. L.1905, p. 385; L.1931, p. 876.

Superintendent of Schools - School
Funds; Sale of School Lands; School
Districts; Teachers' Records

(403-407)

Accounts of School Funds

403. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS, 1934--. 1 v.

Account of school distributive fund, showing names of township and treasurer, number of school district, amount apportioned to each district, and date and total amount paid to township treasurer by county superintendent. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. 150 p. 10 x 13 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

Sale of School Lands (See also entry 6)

404. SCHOOL LAND RECORD, 1865-67. 1 v.

Copies of petitions for sale of school lands, showing date and nature of petition, legal description and location of school lands, name and number of school district, names of petitioners, affidavit as to number of male white adults in township where lands are located, names of witnesses to affidavit, and date of filing of petition. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. 60 p. 10 x 12 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., bsmt.

School Districts

405. CLAIMS FOR STATE AID, 1924--. 1 f.b.

State-aid claims showing amount of taxes, general apportionment among districts based on attendance of pupils, special equalization quota due, total amount of claims, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 11 x 17 x 24. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

Teachers' Records

406. TEACHERS' RECORD, 1900--. 2 f.b.

Teachers' permanent record cards showing name, age, date and place of birth, and home and school addresses of teacher, schools of attendance, dates of attendance and graduation, teaching experience, place and date of last employment, and date and grade of certificate. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. 5 x 7 x 16. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

407. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECORD OF EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS, 1877--. 3 v., (1877-1917); 16 f.b., (1914--).

Examination records of teachers, showing date of examination, name, address, date and place of birth, date and grade of certificate of teacher, schools of attendance, dates of attendance and graduation, degree attained, and schools, subjects, and years taught. Arr. by date of examination. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. V. 300 p. 14 x 9 x $1\frac{1}{2}$; f.b. 10 x 6 x 13. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

Pupil Records

408. (PUPILS' EXAMINATION RECORD), 1892-93. 10 v.

Examination record of pupils in rural school grades, showing name of school, subjects studied, name and age of each child, grade of examination, district number, name of township, and teacher's name and address. Arr. alph. by name of school. No index. Hdw. 160 p. $10\frac{1}{2}$ x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

Reports

409. ANNUAL REPORTS, 1860--. 78 v.

Copies of county school superintendent's annual reports of general and financial statistics to county board, showing date of report, income of township fund, names of districts employing two teachers or more and containing high schools, with financial and special statistics for high schools. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 39 p. 16 x $10\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

410. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT, 1915--. 10 bdl.

Reports of township school trustees, showing name of township, date of report, general statistics as to value of all school property, amount of tax levies, bonded indebtedness, financial statistics as to receipts and expenditures of educational, building, distributive, and loanable funds, and names of treasurer and superintendent. Also contains Annual Report of the County Superintendent of Schools, 1924--, entry 411. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

411. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 1860-1923. 1 bdl. 1924-- in Trustees' Annual Report, entry 410.

Copies of annual reports of superintendent of schools to county board, showing name of superintendent, date of report, general statistics as to enrollment, districts, length of terms, attendance, promotion, number of tuition-paying pupils, administrative positions, salaries, pensions, school buildings and property, tax levies, libraries, and financial statistics of various school funds. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 14 x 10 x 6 . Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

XVI. SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

From 1833 to 1849 the county commissioners' court exercised jurisdiction over roads and bridges in Rock Island County.¹ The court was empowered to locate new roads, to alter or vacate old roads, to divide the county into road districts, and to appoint a supervisor in each district.² The construction and maintenance of roads were effected by means of a labor tax levied on all able-bodied men between the ages of eighteen and fifty. It was the supervisor's duty to summon these men for work when road labor was needed.³

From 1849 to 1857 the county court in Rock Island County had the control and supervision of public roads and bridges. The substitution of this administrative body for the old county commissioners' court effected no material changes in the earlier set up. The system of road districts was retained and the work of superintending road construction and maintenance continued to be vested in district supervisors.⁴

In 1857, when township organization was instituted in Rock Island County,⁵ the care and superintendence of roads became the responsibility of the townships. In 1849, legislation enabling the adoption of this form of county government had provided for the election in each township of a highway commissioner and as many overseers of highways as there were road districts in the county. The commissioners at their annual meeting determined necessary action for establishing new roads and repairing, altering, or vacating old roads; the overseers of highways were then required to carry out the commissioners' instructions.⁶ This system of road control and maintenance obtained until 1913; in that year the office of superintendent of highways was first established.⁷ The boards of highway commissioners which existed prior to that date have continued to function, but their powers are principally subordinated to those of the superintendent of highways.

The superintendent is appointed by the county board. The board submits a list of three to five candidates to the State Department of Public Works and Buildings, which department examines the candidates to determine

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1. L.1819, p. 175; R.L.1827, p. 340.
 2. Ibid., p. 333; L.1825, p. 130; R.L.1827, p. 340,344.
 3. L.1819, p. 334; R.L.1827, p. 341,342.
 4. L.1847, p. 111-13; L.1849, p. 65; L.1851, p. 179.
 5. L.1851, p. 65. Township organization adopted in 1856, but not effective until 1857.
 6. L.1849, p. 212.
 7. L.1913, p. 524.

Superintendent of Highways

the person best fitted for the office.¹ The successful candidate holds office for six years and is remunerated in a sum fixed by the county board.

The powers and duties of the superintendent of highways come under the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Works and Buildings. However, the superintendent is subject, upon hearing, to removal by the county board. The superintendent exercises supervision over township, county, and state-aid roads, and bridges and culverts in his county and is required to perform such duties as may be prescribed by the chief highway engineer of the state.²

His principal duties are as follows:

1. To prepare plans, specifications, and estimates for all bridges to be built by the county.
2. To supervise the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges, and state-aid roads.
3. To inspect the highways and bridges in each town or district of his county at least once a year.
4. To advise and direct the highway commissioners in each town or district as to the best methods of repair, maintenance, and improvement of highways and bridges.
5. To approve any purchase in excess of \$200 for materials, machinery, or apparatus to be used in road construction in any towns or district.³

He is required to keep the following records:

1. Records of contracts, purchases, and expenditures authorized by himself, the county board, or township commissioners.
2. Maps, plats, blueprints, specifications, etc., arising from his supervision of roads and bridges, or the planning of new construction.
3. Accounts of the funds handled by his office.
4. Reports from other officers or bodies touching upon the affairs of his office; copies of his own reports on the administration of his office; related papers.⁴

1. L.1921, p. 781; L.1933, p. 961. From 1913 to 1917 the list was submitted to the State Highway Commission. In 1917 this state agency was abolished, and its rights, powers, and duties were vested in the Department of Public Works and Buildings, created in the same year (L.1913, p. 524; L.1917, p. 4,16,24).

2. L.1921, p. 782; L.1933, p. 961.

3. L.1913, p. 523-26.

4. Ibid., p. 525.

Superintendent of Highways - Construction and Maintenance Records; Allotments and Claims; Maps

All records of the superintendent of highways are kept in his office on the first floor.

Construction and Maintenance Records

412. STATE-AID ROUTES (Road Plans), 1921--. 35 f.b.

Miscellaneous collection of plans for road construction of various county and state roads. No obvious arr. No index. Blueprint. 7 x 9 x 24.

413. MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR'S DAILY REPORTS, 1935--. 2 f.b.

Road maintenance supervisor's daily reports showing date of report, weather condition, patrols and sections of visit, state-aid route number, condition, number of men working, nature of work, miles traveled and hours worked, and signature of supervisor. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 6 x 12.

Allotments and Claims

414. 1927 MOTOR FUEL TAX ALLOTMENT, 1927--. 1 v.

Register of motor fuel tax allotments, showing date of contract, amounts for labor, engineering, principal and interest of bonds, emergency relief, and treasurer's fees, amount and date of allotment, and certified amount. Arr. by date of allotment. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 12 x 17 x 1.

415. MOTOR FUEL TAX ALLOTMENT RECORD, 1931--. 1 v.

Record of motor fuel tax allotments, showing date, receipt and claim numbers, amounts of receipts and disbursements, balance available, estimate of cost, and amount requested by resolution of county board. Arr. by section no. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 75 p. 10 x 13 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

416. CLAIM REGISTER, 1934--. 1 v.

Register of claims entered against highway fund, showing date and number of claim, name and address of claimant, cause for claim, patrol number, total claims, functional distribution, and warrant number. Arr. by date of claim. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 12 x 17 x 2.

Maps

417. ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, 1935. 1 map.

Map of Rock Island County, showing locations of townships, towns, railroads, and state routes. Rockford, Illinois: Stacey Map Publishers. Printed. 32 x 41.

418. CITY OF EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS, 1929. 1 map.

Political map showing locations of lots, blocks, streets, and alleys of East Moline. Draftsman, R. M. Benell. Printed and colored. 1 in. to 200 ft. 69 x 54.

419. CITY OF ROCK ISLAND, 1927. 1 map.

Map of City of Rock Island, showing city limits, state routes, and city streets. Draftsman, Wallace Treichler. Hand-drawn. 1 in. to 300 ft. 78 x 66.

420. ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, 1915. 1 map.

Map of Rock Island County, showing township lines, section and range numbers, locations of towns, roads, and state routes. Draftsman, Clifford L. Hubbard. Printed and colored. 58 x 40.

421. MAP OF THE TRI-CITIES, DAVENPORT, ROCK ISLAND, AND MOLINE,
no date. 1 map.

Map of Davenport, Iowa, and Rock Island and Moline, Illinois, showing city limits, state routes, and city streets. Davenport, Iowa: Olson and Ducken, publishers. Printed. 3 3/4 in. to 1 mi. 48 x 32.

XVII. SURVEYOR

The office of surveyor was established in the State of Illinois in 1821; the incumbent was an appointee of the General Assembly.¹ During recess of the legislature, nominations were made by the county commissioners' court to the Governor.² From 1835 to 1936, the county surveyor was an elected officer of the county electorate.³ Since September, 1936 he has been an appointee of the county board.⁴ His appointment is for a four-year term. He takes and subscribes to an oath which is filed in the county clerk's office.

The surveyor is required by law to make all surveys within the bounds of his county that he may be called upon to make by the county board or interested persons. Such surveys include surveys of lands of persons requesting the same, of additions or subdivisions, and marking of county lines. Few changes have been made in the original statutory requirements for the duties of this office. The surveyor may appoint one or more deputies. Any individual requesting a survey must employ his own chainmen subject to the approval of the surveyor.

The surveyor is required by law to keep a well-bound book in which to record all surveys made by him, giving such information as the names

1. L.1821, p. 62; R.L.1829, p. 172; R.L.1833, p. 591.

2. Ibid.

3. L.1835, p. 166; L.1837, p. 558; R.S.1845, p. 523; R.S.1874, p. 456, 1050; L.1903, p. 349.

4. L.1933, p. 1104. Effective in 1936.

of the persons whose land is surveyed and descriptive data of the survey. This record is required to be kept by the surveyor in the recorder's office. The surveyor also preserves his field notes and retains copies of plats.¹

422. SURVEYOR'S RECORD, 1838--. 3 v. (1, 2, 1 not numbered).
Missing: 1868-84.

Record of plats of surveys by county surveyor, showing number of feet in each parcel of land with name and address of owner, legal description of property, location of stakes, and date of survey. Also contains School Plats, 1838-66, entry 66. Arr. by date of survey. 1838-67, indexed alph. by name of property owner; 1885--, indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 540 - 595 p., 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3. V. 1, 2, 1838-67, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 v. not numbered, 1885--, rec.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

XVIII. DRAINAGE COMMISSIONERS

For the purpose of aiding in public welfare and health, the constitution had delegated to the General Assembly broad power to provide laws in regard to drainage.² By statutory provision these activities are exercised by drainage commissioners in districts of Rock Island County. The corporate authorities of the drainage districts have power to acquire right of ways, issue bonds, construct and maintain drains, ditches, and levees for agricultural, sanitary or mining purposes, and assess the benefited property.³

Drainage districts may be organized by land owners upon petition to the county court. When the court finds in favor of the petitioners, it then enters an order to that effect and appoints three commissioners, to examine and survey the proposed lands. The commissioners, when they have completed their assignment, make a final report to the court with recommendations and the copies of surveys, maps, plats, and estimates.⁴

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1. L.1821, p. 63,64; R.L.1829, p. 173; R.L.1833, p. 591-93,599,600; L.1845, p. 201; R.S.1845, p. 524; R.S.1874, p. 1050; L.1885, p. 248; L.1915, p. 575; L.1933, p. 1104.
 2. Constitution of 1870, Art. IV, sec. 31.
 3. First amendment to the constitution, ratified November 29, 1878, incorporated in the Constitution of 1870, Art. IV, sec. 31; L.1879, p. 124-39.
 4. L.1871-72, p. 356-58; R.S.1874, p. 429; L.1875, p. 76,77; L.1879, p. 120,124,155; L.1885, p. 78,93,95,110-15; L.1907, p. 275; L.1913, p. 261.

The districts are of three kinds: regular, which is composed of property lying in a single town; union, where the lands organized lie in two towns; special, with three or more towns involved.¹

After the report on a proposed district has been made, the court completes the organization of the district.² The corporate powers of regular and union districts are vested in three commissioners appointed by town clerks. The corporate authority in special drainage districts is vested in three elected commissioners of the district.³ In regular districts the commissioners appoint one of their number to act as secretary. The town clerk in union districts acts as the clerk of the district.⁴ The county clerk and county treasurer in cases of the special drainage districts are, respectively, ex-officio clerk⁵ and treasurer⁶ of each district. Rock Island County has three special drainage districts.

The following records belong to the drainage commissioners:

1. Records of bonds issued.
2. Assessment books.
3. Petitions of owners of land to stay assessments, orders of commissioners thereupon, and other proceedings.
4. State auditor's certificates of interest due on bonds.
5. Tax lists showing pro-rata share of levy for bond interest (union and special districts only).
6. Copies of reports to county court on conditions of district and estimated expenditures; and to county treasurer on delinquent lands; maps and plats, surveys and estimates; office transactions.⁷

The first two records are required to be kept in separate books, the next three generally are known as the "Drainage Record," and the remaining records are kept desultorily.

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1. L.1879, p. 155; L.1885, p. 93,94,113. River districts, though not in this category, may be organized similarly and with like powers. L.1885, p. 106.
 2. See footnote 4, p. 213.
 3. L.1879, p. 156; L.1885, p. 93,95,113.
 4. L.1915, p. 390. The town clerk shall be clerk of the union drainage district, when the major portion lies in his town.
 5. L.1885, p. 95; L.1915, p. 390; L.1919, p. 468.
 6. L.1885, p. 104.
 7. L.1879, p. 120-34; L.1885, p. 78-104.

423. DRURY DISTRICT (Drainage), 1906--. 5 f.b. 1891-1905 in (Drury Drainage District and Miscellaneous), entry 424.

Drury drainage district papers, including court orders, petitions for establishment of assessment rolls, amended assessment rolls, court decrees, jury verdicts, and appeals to higher courts. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

424. (DRURY DRAINAGE DISTRICT AND MISCELLANEOUS), 1891-1915. 1 f.b. Drury drainage district papers, including petitions, orders, and appointments of drainage commissioners, and reports to county judge of fees, fines, and forfeitures collected; also contains Drury District (Drainage), 1891-1905, entry 423, and (Estray Papers), 1898-1915, entry 101. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

425. BLACKHAWK DRAINAGE DISTRICT, 1919--. 1 f.b. Blackhawk drainage district papers, including court orders, petitions for establishment of district, assessment rolls, verdict of jurors, and amount of drainage tax. Arr. by date of filing. Noindex. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

426. HAMPTON DRAINAGE DISTRICT, 1926--. 1 f.b. Last entry 1931. Hampton drainage district papers, including petition for organization, petition to change name, commissioners' reports, court decrees, assessment rolls, objections to assessment, and jury verdicts. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 15. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

XIX. TUBERCULOSIS SANITARIUM¹

In 1909 the powers of the county were extended to permit the establishment of a sanitarium for the care and treatment of county residents suffering from tuberculosis.² This provision was greatly amplified in an act of 1915 which described in detail the conditions necessary to the establishment of such an institution and the manner in which it was to be supported, managed, and controlled.³

The act provided that whenever one hundred legal voters in a county should petition the county board to levy a tax for the establishment and

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1. Rock Island Tuberculosis Sanitarium.
 2. L.1909, p. 162.
 3. L.1915. p. 346-49.

maintenance of a tuberculosis sanitarium, the board was required to submit the question to the voters of the county at the next regular general election. A favorable majority of all votes cast upon the proposition was necessary for adoption.¹ In the original legislation of 1915, the amount of the tax levy was limited to not more than three mills on the dollar annually on all taxable property in the county.² This limit was lowered in 1923 to two mills,³ and further reduced in 1929 to one and one-half mills,⁴ the present statutory requirement. The money thus received was to be set apart in a special Tuberculosis Sanitarium Fund.⁵

The management of the sanitarium was vested in a board of three directors appointed by the president or chairman of the county board with the approval of that body. The directors were to serve for three years.⁶ Vacancies on the board were to be filled in the manner in which original appointments were made. Immediately after their appointment, the directors were required to meet and elect from their number a president, secretary, and such other officers as they might deem necessary.⁷ The Rock Island County electorate voted in 1920 for the levying of a tax to establish such an institution, and the first board of directors was appointed on June 16, 1921.⁸

Today the powers and duties of the board of directors are essentially the same as in 1915.⁹ The directors are required to make and adopt such bylaws, rules, and regulations for their own guidance and for the government of the sanitarium and all its auxiliary activities as may be expedient and consistent with statutory requirements. They are also granted exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected to the credit of the fund and may receive, in the name of the county, contributions or donations to the sanitarium of money or property. The same act provides that persons desiring to make a donation, bequest, or devise of any money, personal property, or real estate may vest the title to such property in the board of directors who shall, upon acceptance, hold and control it and act as special trustees. Otherwise, all moneys received for the use of the sanitarium are deposited in the county treasury within a month after their receipt, to be

1. L.1915, p. 346,347.

2. Ibid., p. 346.

3. L.1923, p. 302.

4. L.1929, p. 304.

5. L.1915, p. 346; L.1923, p. 302; L.1929, p. 304,305.

6. The first three directors were required to serve for irregular terms of one, two, and three years in order to permit the appointment of one new director annually. Choice of terms was decided by lot (L.1915, p. 347).

7. Ibid.

8. Supervisors' Records, v. Q, p. 516.

9. L.1915, p. 346-49; L.1923, p. 302,303; L.1929, p. 304,305. Cf. R.S.1937, p. 956-59.

Tuberculosis Sanitarium

drawn upon only by the proper officers upon presentation of properly authenticated vouchers of the board of directors. Whenever such a deposit is made the board is required to secure a receipt from the treasurer.¹

The board may purchase or lease ground within the limits of the county and may occupy, lease, or erect an appropriate building or buildings for the use of the sanitarium and its auxiliary institutions or activities. No building may be constructed, however, until the plans have been approved by the secretary of the State Board of Health,² and no building in which tuberculosis patients are to be housed may be erected on the grounds of a county poor farm. The board has exclusive control of the supervision, care, and custody of the grounds, rooms, or buildings so constructed, leased, or set apart. The board is empowered to appoint and remove superintendents, matrons, and all other necessary assistants, and to fix their compensation. It is required that one or more of the directors shall visit the sanitarium and all its branches, dispensaries, and auxiliary institutions and activities at least twice in each month. No board member may receive compensation for his services nor be interested either directly or indirectly in the purchase or sale of any supplies for the institution.³

All sanitariums established under the provisions of this act are required to be free for the benefit of all tubercular inhabitants of the county. Such inhabitants are entitled to occupancy, nursing, care, medicine, and attendance, subject to the rules and regulations adopted by the board of directors. A person who violates these rules and regulations may be excluded from the use of the sanitarium. No person may be compelled to enter the sanitarium or any of its branches, dispensaries or other auxiliary institutions unless his consent in writing has first been obtained. In the case of a minor or person under a disability the written consent must be secured from his parent, guardian, or conservator. In the same manner, provision is made for home treatment under proper rules and regulations. The board may also extend the privileges and use of the sanitarium to tubercular residents of Illinois who live outside the county, upon such terms and conditions as the directors prescribe. The board has power to make rules and regulations governing all physicians, nurses, attendants, patients, or other persons approaching or coming within the limits of the grounds, and all articles used or brought there. The rules extend to all branches, dispensaries, and other auxiliary institutions located in the county, to their employees, and to all employees sent into the homes of patients. All reputable physicians are entitled to equal privileges in treating patients in any county tuberculosis sanitarium.⁴

1. L.1915, p. 347-49.

2. In 1917, the State Board of Health was abolished (L.1917, p. 17); since that year, all plans for sanitarium buildings have been submitted to the Department of Public Health, successor to the board (Ibid., p. 27).

3. L.1915, p. 347,348.

4. Ibid., p. 348,349.

Since 1923, to insure greater working efficiency, counties maintaining tuberculosis sanitariums have been permitted to convey property acquired for such purposes, to any adjacent county or counties upon such terms and conditions as the respective county boards agree on by a majority vote of all members of each board. In the same year it was also provided that counties without public tuberculosis facilities might use funds secured for that purpose to give patients sanitarium care in private or public sanitariums of the state.¹

The directors are required to report monthly to the county board on conditions in the sanitarium. They also return to that body a monthly list of the names of all persons making contributions and donations, the amount and nature of the property so received, and the date of its receipt. On or before the second Monday in June in each year, the directors make an annual report to the county board, stating the condition of their trust on the first day of June, the various sums of money received from all sources and how and for what purpose expended, the number of patients, and other pertinent statistics, information, and suggestions.²

For abstract of title to tuberculosis sanitarium, see entry 24.

427. HISTORY CARDS, 1916--. 1 f.b.

Case history cards of patients, showing case number, name, age, marital status, religion, residence, birthplace, family history, and name and address of closest relative or friend of patient, names of family and examining physician, present and former occupation, first symptoms, date of diagnosis, symptoms on admittance, dates of admittance and discharge, length of stay, condition on discharge, and reason for discharge. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 17 x 20. Supt.'s off., 1st fl., co. tuberculosis sanitarium.

428. (SANITARIUM CASE RECORD), 1932--. 1 shelf, 1 desk drawer.

Case records of patients, showing case number, name of patient, diagnosis, dates of admittance and discharge, condition upon admittance, names of attending and referring physicians, daily temperature chart, daily progress report, examination sheets for routine examination by medical director, X-ray chart, physician's order record for medicines, blood sedimentation index, urine examination, and artificial pneumothorax chart. Upon patient's discharge, records are transferred from binders in desk to envelopes on shelf. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Shelf 14 x 60 x 15; desk drawer 14 x 15 x 36. Shelf, medical director's off., 1st fl.; desk drawer, corridor near supt.'s off., 1st fl., co. tuberculosis sanitarium.

1. L.1923, p. 303.

2. L.1915, p. 348,349.

429. X-RAYS OF PATIENTS, 1933--. 3 f.b.

X-ray negatives of patients, showing name of patient, date, and number of negative. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. 16 x 20 x 26. Medical director's off., 1st fl., co. tuberculosis sanitarium.

XX. COUNTY HOME

One phase of public assistance is administered by the county home. All county poorhouses, poor farms, and institutions for the support and care of indigents in Illinois are known as county homes.¹ County poorhouses and farms have existed in this state under statutory provisions for nearly a century. The legislation creating these county establishments for the indigent has changed little since the original enactments. The county boards of the various counties may establish a county home, and are granted the following powers:

1. To acquire by purchase, grant, gift, or devise, a suitable tract or tracts upon which to erect and maintain a county poorhouse and other necessary buildings, and for the establishment and maintenance of a farm for the employment of the poor.
2. To receive gifts and bequests to aid in the erection and maintenance of the poorhouse, or in the care of the indigents.
3. To make rules and regulations for the same.
4. To appoint a keeper of the poorhouse and all necessary agents and servants for the management and control of the poorhouse and farm, and to prescribe their compensation and duties.
5. To appoint a county physician and prescribe his compensation and duties.
6. To appoint an agent to have the general supervision and charge of all matters in relation to the care and support of the poor, and to prescribe his compensation and duties.
7. To make the necessary appropriations for the erection and maintenance of the county home.²

Records of the county home are prepared and kept by the keeper (superintendent) of the home. He is required to keep an account showing the

1. L.1919, p. 699; L.1935, p. 1058.

2. L.1839, p. 139; R.S.1845, p. 404,405; L.1861, p. 180; R.S.1874, p. 757; L.1917, p. 638,639; L.1919, p. 698,699; L.1935, p. 1057,1058.

name of each person admitted to the county poorhouse, the time of his admission and discharge, the place of his birth, and the cause of his dependency. He is also required, at the same time each year, to file with the county clerk of his county a copy of this record together with a statement showing the average number of persons kept in the poorhouse each month during the year.¹

All of the records of the county home are kept in the superintendent's office on the first floor of the building.

430. INFIRMARY REGISTER, 1881--. 3 v., 1 f.b. Title varies: Inmate Record.

History of county home inmates, showing name, sex, age, color, occupation, birthplace, parentage, residence, education, health, habits, date of admission, and property of inmate, authority for admission, supposed cause of pauperism, date of discharge or death, and record of burial. Subsequent to 1909 this record consists of unbound papers. Arr. alph. by name of inmate. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. V. 500 p. 20 x 15 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$; f.b. 13 x 15 x 30.

431. ANNUAL REPORT, 1910--. 1 f.b.

Copies of annual reports to county board of supervisors, showing date of report, inventory of supplies, buildings, and materials, statement of receipts, disbursements, and general expenses, net cost of operation, total number of inmates, average daily inmates, and cost per inmate per day. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 6 x 12 x 14.

432. LEDGER, 1910--. 4 v.

Journal of inmates' accounts, showing account number, name and address of inmate, folio number, date and amounts of debits and credits, and balance on hand. Arr. by account no. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 10 x 13 x 1.

433. (CASH BOOK), 1910--. 6 v.

Record of receipts and disbursements of county home, showing date and amount of receipt, name of payer, date and amount of expenditure, and paying check number. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. 150 p. 14 x 11 x 1.

434. (INVOICE RECORD), 1920--. 3 v.

Lists of invoices, showing date, name, amount, accounts payable, distribution to several accounts to be charged, and account number. Arr. by date of invoice. No index. Hdw. 150 p. 12 x 10 x 1.

1. R.S.1874, p. 758.

XXI. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Matters relating to public assistance and welfare in the county are handled by the department of public welfare, which was established in 1937 as successor to the county commission of public welfare.¹ This department consists of the superintendent of public welfare and a staff selected by him in accordance with, and subject to, the approval of the State Department of Public Welfare.

The county board submits to the state department a list of five residents as candidates for the office of superintendent. An eligible list of these candidates is prepared by the state department by competitive examination and certified to the county board. The board in turn makes an order appointing one of the eligibles as superintendent of public welfare.²

The superintendent is charged with all the executive and administrative duties and responsibilities of the department of public welfare. He is subject to the rules and regulations of, and removal by, the state agency.³

This officer has power and it is his duty to:

1. Have charge and develop plans for the administration of old age assistance.
2. Investigate and study problems of assistance, correction, and general welfare within his county.
3. Cooperate with the State Department of Public Welfare in the operation of welfare plans and policies in his county.
4. Maintain such records and file such reports with the State Department of Public Welfare as that department may require.
5. Serve as agent and executive officer of the State Department of Public Welfare in the administration of all forms of public assistance administered by that department.⁴

All the records of the county department are subject to the inspection and supervision of the agents of this central authority.

1. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 70-73; L.1937, p. 451.
2. L.1937, p. 451,452.
3. Ibid., p. 452.
4. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 72; L.1937, p. 452.

The department of public welfare administers old age assistance and is subject to the rules and regulations of the state department.¹ Upon receipt of an application the department makes an investigation of the case. In the course of the investigation the department is allowed to hold hearings and compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of papers and books.²

Old age assistance records and accounts are kept as prescribed by the state department. All applications and records in these matters are considered public records.³

All records of the department of public welfare are kept in the northeast room of the department's office suite.

435. ACTIVE FILE, 1936--. 12 f.d.

Case record of each applicant for old age assistance, showing name, date and place of birth, present address and marital status of applicant, place of residence for past nine years, names and addresses of living relatives, statements of real and personal property owner, insurance, income, and debts, and notarization of application; includes reports of investigator and proof of eligibility. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

436. DENIED FILE, 1936--. 4 f.d.

Rejected applications for old age assistance, showing complete case record as described in Active File, entry 435, and reason for, and date of rejection. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

437. COUNTY PENDING FILE, 1936--. 1 f.d.

Copies of applications for old age assistance awaiting county approval, showing complete case record as described in Active File, entry 435. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

438. STATE PENDING FILE, 1936--. 1 f.d.

Copies of applications for old age assistance awaiting state approval, showing complete case record as described in Active File, entry 435. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

439. CANCELLED, 1936--. 1 f.d.

Case records of applicants whose old age pensions have been cancelled, showing same information as given in Active File, entry 435, and reasons for, and date of cancellation. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

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1. L.1935, p. 259,260; L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54,55; L.1937, p. 265.
 2. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 57-59; L.1937, p. 267,268.
 3. L.1937, p. 268,269.

440. TRANSFERRED FILE, 1936--. 1 f.d.

Case records of applicants transferred to other counties or agencies, showing name, date and place of birth, present address, and marital status of applicant, places of residence for past nine years, names and addresses of living relatives, statements of real and personal property owned, insurance, income, and debts, and notarization. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

441. DECEASED FILE, 1936--. 4 f.d.

Case records of deceased pensioners, showing all information as given in Active File, entry 435, and date and cause of death. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

442. OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE, 1936--. 3 f.d.

Correspondence relative to all matters regarding old age assistance. Arr. by case no. No index. Typed. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$.

XXII. FARM BUREAU

Rock Island County farm bureau was organized in 1916 to promote and foster the social and economic interest of persons engaged in agriculture, and to encourage, promote, and foster cooperative organizations for the mutual benefit of its members. The membership of this bureau is made up of farmers of the county. A farm advisor is employed who cooperates with the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in its program of extension education and farm studies, and to work with farm leaders in establishing such organizations as 4-H clubs and Dairy Herd Improvement Associations.

In 1914, Congress inaugurated a program of agricultural extension education by providing for cooperation between the agricultural colleges in the several states and the United States Department of Agriculture.¹ The purpose of the act was to aid in diffusing useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage the application of the same. An appropriation was made to each state to carry out the act, subject to the assent by the state legislature to the provisions of the act, and provided that the state appropriate a sum equal to that given by the Federal Government.² The General Assembly assented to this act by a joint resolution which, authorized and empowered

1. 38 U.S.S.L. 372.

2. Ibid., 373.

the trustees of the University of Illinois to receive the grants of money appropriated under the act, and to organize and conduct agricultural extension work in connection with the College of Agriculture of the University.¹

The General Assembly appropriated money in 1917 for the payment of county agricultural advisors.² The money was to be appropriated to the Department of Agriculture to be distributed equally among the several county agricultural advisors of the state, to apply upon their salaries. The vouchers approved by the Department of Agriculture for payment were to be accompanied by the certificate of the agricultural college of the University of Illinois that the requirements of the act relative to the employment of county advisors had been substantially applied. In 1928, to further develop the cooperative extension system in agriculture and home economics, Congress appropriated additional sums of money, eighty percent of which was to be utilized for the payment of salaries of extension agents in counties of the several states.³

443. (CORRESPONDENCE; MINUTES OF MEETINGS, AND REPORTS OF FARM ADVISOR), 1916--. 8 f.d.

Miscellaneous correspondence of farm advisor and the board, minutes of various meetings of directors and committees, and narrative statistical reports of the farm advisor. Minutes of meetings and reports are to be bound in volumes in the near future. Arr. alph. by subject matter; reports and minutes, chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 12 x 13 x 27 $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of co. farm bureau, 1413 - 6th Avenue, Moline.

444. (ANNUAL REPORTS OF FARM BUREAU), 1916--. 1 steel safe.

Annual reports of the Farm Bureau, showing receipts and expenditures of various funds and agricultural and animal husbandry statistics for the year. These records are to be bound in volumes in the near future. Arr. by date of report. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 60 x 48 x 36. Off. of co. farm bureau, 1413 - 6th Avenue, Moline.

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1. L.1915, Joint Resolutions, p. 732.
 2. L.1917, p. 85.
 3. 45 U.S.S.L. 711.

XXIII. VETERANS RELIEF COMMISSION

Relief of indigent and suffering soldiers, sailors, and marines in this state has been handled through veterans' posts as well as by the overseer of the poor. An act of 1895 charged the latter with providing the necessary money for assistance to indigent veterans or their families, the money to be drawn upon by the commander and quartermaster of a post of the Grand Army of the Republic.¹ This act was repealed in 1907 by an act which was essentially the same.² New veterans' units were included in this and subsequent acts as they came into existence.³

An amendment of 1909⁴ provided that in counties of two hundred and fifty thousand or more inhabitants there should be organized a "Commanders Association" to be composed of the active commanders of the different posts, and to exercise the powers of the posts in granting relief. They were to have general oversight of the distribution of all supplies appropriated by the county for the benefit of indigent veterans of the civil and other wars, and to formulate such rules and regulations among themselves and with the county authorities as would enable them to carry out the law. A superintendent and secretary, elected by the association, were to exercise the executive powers of the association, and to maintain an office in the county building, to be provided, furnished, and equipped by the county. The superintendent was to hear and investigate claims for relief and report to the county authorities, his decision being final. Provision was also made for the appropriation by the county of additional sums for compensation of the superintendent and secretary.

The veterans relief commission was first provided for in 1933 by an amendment which allowed its organization in all counties of seventy-five thousand or more inhabitants or where two or more veterans' posts existed.⁵ The commission was to be composed of the retiring commanders of the different veterans' posts, who were to be members for a period not to exceed one year. Provisions for a superintendent, his election, powers and duties, and salary were similar to those for superintendent of the Commanders Association in the 1909 act.

The latest amendment to the 1907 act provides that the commission shall be composed of one delegate and one alternate from each of the different veterans' posts, camps, and chapters, to be selected annually.⁶ In addition to provisions similar to those in the 1933 act, the 1935 law states that the veterans commission and the chairman of the county board shall

1. L.1895, p. 83.

2. L.1907, p. 79.

3. Ibid.; L.1923, p. 175; L.1927, p. 204; L.1933, p. 211; L.1935, p. 266.

4. L.1909, p. 124.

5. L.1933, p. 211.

6. L.1935, p. 266.

have general oversight of the distribution of money and supplies appropriated by the county for the benefit of indigent veterans and their families, and that warrants for the payment of money for such purpose shall be issued only upon the presentation of an itemized statement or claim, approved by the superintendent of the commission and the chairman of the county board. A further addition in the latest amendment is the provision that if any overseer of the poor or any county board shall fail or refuse to provide relief as recommended by the relief committee of any veterans' post then the commander and quartermaster of the post, or the superintendent of the veterans relief commission may apply to the circuit court for a writ of mandamus requiring him or it to pay relief.

On June 1, 1930 in Rock Island County the following organizations: the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans combined and formed the Veterans Association. This association existed until 1933 when the Veterans Relief Commission was established in pursuance of a law enacted in that year.¹

445. CASE RECORDS - CORRESPONDENCE, 1930--. 12 f.d.

Veterans' complete case records including enlistment, compensation, and pension relief records, showing name and address of veteran, family history, and dates of application for compensation, pension, or relief, former occupation, and physical condition. Correspondence relative to various cases included in file. Arr. alph. by name of veteran. No index. Hdw. and typed. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 12 \times 26\frac{1}{2}$. Closet of Veterans Relief Commission off., mezzanine fl., Municipal Bldg., Moline.

446. INACTIVE CASE RECORDS, 1930--. 4 f.d.

Complete case records transferred to inactive file, showing same information as described in Case Records - Correspondence, entry 445. Arr. alph. by name of veteran. No index. Hdw. and typed. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 12 \times 26\frac{1}{2}$. Wash rm., Veterans Relief Commission off., mezzanine fl., Municipal Bldg., Moline.

447. COMMISSION RECORDS, 1930--. 2 f.d.

Business records of the commission including investigators' reports on eligibility of applicants and financial records. Arr. alph. by subject matter. No index. Typed and hdw. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 12 \times 26\frac{1}{2}$. Veterans Relief Commission off., mezzanine fl., Municipal Bldg., Moline.

1. L.1933, p. 211.

448. EMERGENCY FILE (and Miscellaneous Correspondence), 1930--.

1 f.d.

Case records of veterans and their families which are being used and have not been placed in the permanent file; also contains miscellaneous correspondence. Arr. alph. by name of family or subject matter. No index. Typed and hdw. $10\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $26\frac{1}{2}$. Veterans Relief Commission off., mezzanine fl., Municipal Bldg., Moline.

449. VETERANS' BONUS RECORD, 1936--. 4 f.d.

Card record of bonus payments to veterans, showing name and address of veteran, discharge number, amount of bonus allowed, date and amount paid, and amount payable. Arr. alph. by town and alph. by name of veteran, thereunder. No index. Typed. 7 x 5 x 18. Veterans Relief Commission off., mezzanine fl., Municipal Bldg., Moline.

XXIV. MINE INSPECTOR

Legislation in regard to health and safety in the mining industry originally made the county surveyor ex-officio inspector of mines.¹ As such inspector he was to be assisted by a practical miner, to act under oath, and to receive a salary fixed by the county board and paid out of the county treasury. His duties were to see that safety measures were observed in the mines and to collect facts relative to coal mining and mining land. The inspector reported to the Governor annually on the condition of mines in regard to safety and ventilation and the result of examination of causes of accidents.

In 1877 the legislature authorized the county board, in each county in which mining is carried on, to appoint an inspector of mines.² This county inspector, who had to give evidence of practical mining experience, was required to take an oath of office, and to furnish a bond to the county board in an amount fixed by the latter body. The amount of the bond was fixed in 1879 at not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$3,000.³ Where a competent inspector was not appointed, or where the inspector did not properly perform his duties, then the circuit judge, at the request of ten citizens of the county, and upon proper proof of incompetency, was empowered to remove the inspector and appoint a properly qualified person to act during the unexpired term.⁴

1. L.1871-72, p. 572.

2. L.1877, p. 141,142.

3. L.1879, p. 208.

4. Ibid., p. 209.

Mine Inspector

The State Mining Board was created in 1899, and the state divided into seven inspection districts, with a State Inspector of Mines in each.¹ The county also was fitted into this new organization with the requirement that the county board appoint a county inspector of mines upon the written request of the State Inspector for the district in which the particular county was located.² The intention of the legislature to maintain centralization in mine inspection was indicated by this statute which made the county inspector an assistant to the State Inspector. In accordance with this act, a county mine inspector was appointed in Rock Island County in 1916.³

Provision was made in 1915 for petition by the State Inspector to the county court upon failure of the county board to appoint a suitable county mine inspecotr.⁴ If necessary, the court will appoint an inspector, and order the county board to appropriate money for his compensation. This provision was recently reenacted.⁵

No records are kept by the mine inspector in Rock Island County.

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1. L.1899, p. 306,308.
 2. Ibid., p. 314,315.
 3. Supervisors' Records, v. P, p. 71.
 4. L.1915, p. 509,510.
 5. L.1939, p. 727,728.

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